WEDNESDAY
June 18, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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India's largest auto cargo terminal opens

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The third nuclear age

The world is entering a period of self-inflicted nuclear insecurity

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WORKLOAD MANAGEMENT

Bumrah picks bowling over leadership role

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NEARBY

Don't arrest RCSPL, DNA executives: HC

BENGALURU
The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday directed the CID not to arrest executives of (RCSPL and DNA Entertainment Ltd. in connection with the criminal case registered with regard to the June 4 stampede outside M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.
» PAGE 8

ED summons D.K. Suresh

BENGALURU
The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has issued summons to former Member of Parliament D.K. Suresh in connection with the Aishwarya Gowda gold cheating case. » Page 8

Incessant rains, landslips disrupt traffic in Malnad

SHIVAMOGGA/MYSURU
Incessant downpour in the Malnad region threw life out of gear, triggering landslips and disrupting the movement of traffic on major roads.
The landslip in Doddathappale, near Sakleshpur, affected vehicle movement on the NH-75 on Monday night.
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OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 7

Indians with 'own vehicles' in Tehran told to leave city

Embassy tells Indian nationals in Iran capital to provide their location and contact details as the Israel-Iran conflict widens; MEA says it will issue further advisories depending on 'fluid situation'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Amidst reports of a possible widening of the Israel-Iran conflict, now in its fifth day, the Indian embassy in Iran has urged "all" Indian nationals and People of Indian Origin (PIO) who are using "own" vehicles to leave the city for a safer location.

"All Indian Nationals and PIOs who can move out of Tehran using their own resources, are advised to move to a safe location outside the city," said the Embassy of India in the public announcement on Tuesday morning. This is the first time in the last one week that the Indian embassy has urged people to use "own resources" to get out of Tehran, which is witnessing a large-scale exodus of citizens as the fear of a full-scale war with Israel mounts.

The embassy has been coordinating relocation of Indian students and professionals from Tehran through specially arranged buses in an urgent measure to move them away from the Iranian capital that has been targeted repeatedly by Israeli Air Force and missiles.

"Some Indians have been facilitated to leave Iran through the border with Armenia," the Ministry of External Affairs said in an announcement on Tuesday morning, adding that further advisories will be issued depending on the "fluid situation".

Advising Indian nationals in Tehran who are not in contact with the embassy to get in touch with it, the embassy said: "All Indian nationals who are in Tehran and not in touch with the Embassy are requested to contact the Embassy of India in Tehran immediately and provide their location and contact numbers".

Emergency numbers
The embassy has put out three phone numbers for those who want assistance while leaving Tehran: +98-9010144557, +98-9128109115 and +98-9128109101. Separate numbers were also issued for those in the southern Iranian port of Bandar Abbas (+98-9177699036), and Zahedan (+98-9396356649).

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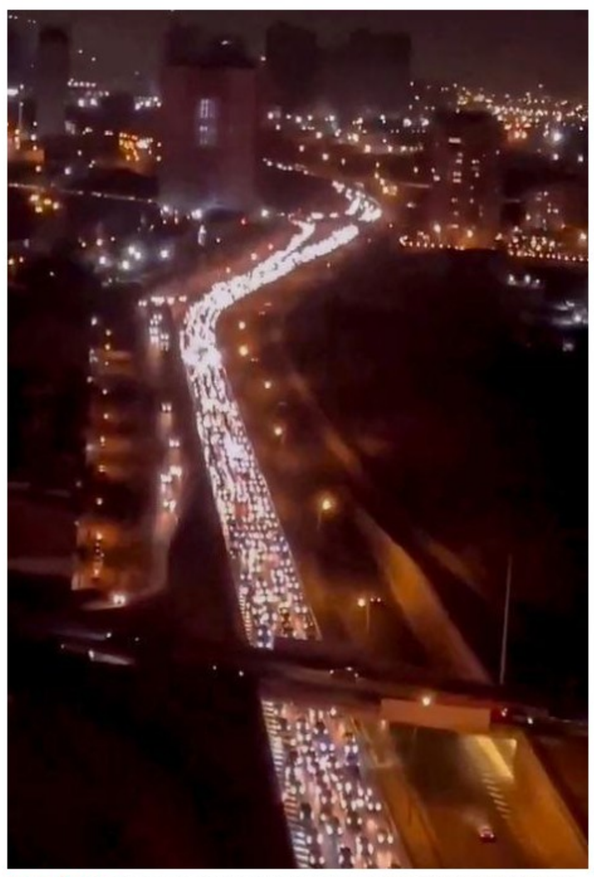

Rush hour: Videograb of vehicles moving out of Tehran on Sunday night as Israel and Iran continue to attack each other. REUTERS

Iran fires more missiles after Israel's attacks

TEHRAN
Israel said on Tuesday that it targeted military sites in Iran and killed senior Iranian commander Ali Shadmani in fresh strikes, prompting Tehran to fire missiles in retaliation on the fifth day of escalating clashes between the arch foes in West Asia. » PAGE 16

Won't kill Iran 'Supreme Leader' for now: Trump

WASHINGTON
President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that the U.S. would not kill Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei "for now" and appeared to demand Tehran's surrender, marking a dramatic escalation in his rhetoric against Iran and its Supreme Leader. » PAGE 16

State govt. proposes to increase daily working hours

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

In what has riled the trade unions in Karnataka, the State government has proposed to bring an amendment to the Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, 1961, to increase the daily working hours to 10 from the current nine hours, besides allowing more overtime hours.

The proposed amendment, circulated by the Labour Department among the stakeholders to elicit their response, allows work hours to be increased to 10 a day and 48 a week. The proposal caps the total number of hours of work, including overtime, to 12 hours a day – up from the present 10 hours a day.

Union govt.'s direction
The Karnataka government, in its draft amendment, has cited the Union government's directions to all States to consider amending the working hour limits through legislative or regulatory changes appropriately. The Centre has also pointed out that similar amendment has been brought in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand – all BJP-governed States.

Among other amendments, there is a proposal to increase the total number of overtime hours per employee to 144 hours in a period of three continuous months from the present 50 hours.

The Act governs a large number of shops and commercial establishments, including hotels, pubs, bars, restaurants, offices, and IT and ITES industries offering commercial services. The proposed amendment also seeks to remove those shops and commercial establishments employing less than 10 persons from the purview of the Act, which would mean they are exempted from filing annual returns.

A meeting of stakeholders has been convened here on Wednesday by the Labour Department to finalise the amendment being brought to the 1961 Act and the Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishments Rules, 1963.

RELATD REPORT ON
» PAGE 7

A file photo of a tech park in Bengaluru. The proposed amendment, circulated by the Labour Department among the stakeholders, allows work hours to be increased to 10 a day and 48 a week.

State initiates study to assess impact of AI on workforce

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Department of Electronics, IT, and Biotechnology of Karnataka has launched a study to assess the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the State's workforce.

According to Karnataka's IT and BT Minister Priyank Kharge, the initiative aims to inform the upcoming IT Policy 2025 and shape strategic interventions under the government's flagship skilling initiative, NIPUNA Karnataka.

As Karnataka continues to lead India's technological journey – with Bengaluru recently being ranked in the fifth position globally in AI and big data ecosystems, besides being home to over one lakh AI professionals – the State is placing strong emphasis on evidence-based policymaking to ensure inclusive, future-ready growth, the Minister said in a communique.

The AI Workforce Impact Survey invites responses from industry leaders, HR heads, technology practitioners, and the academia.

Open until June 27
The survey is open until June 27, and all responses will remain confidential and anonymous, the communique said. The survey could be taken on: https://shorturl.at/dNNQU

Will highlight Global South at G7 meet: PM

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India will highlight the priorities of the Global South at the G7 summit in Canada, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who reached Calgary on Tuesday to participate in the G7 Outreach Summit. Besides the Summit, Mr. Modi is expected to participate in four bilateral meetings with the leaders of Germany, Canada, Ukraine, and Italy.

"Will be meeting various leaders at the Summit and sharing my thoughts on important global issues. Will also be emphasising the priorities of the Global South," said Mr. Modi.

Soon after reaching the venue of the Summit in Kananaskis, Mr. Modi met South Korean President Lee Jae-myung and Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum.

The pull-aside meeting with Ms. Sheinbaum was the first such interaction between the two leaders.

In a prelude to his speech at the G7, the Prime Minister, in his just-concluded visit in Cyprus, had conveyed support for a negotiated settlement to the currently escalating Israel-Iran and Russia-Ukraine conflicts.

Summit time: Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Calgary, Alberta, to attend the G7 meeting hosted by Canada. AP

Trump leaves early
The conflicts left an early impact on the summit as U.S. President Donald Trump left the event soon after the early interactions without waiting for the outreach summit where the guest leaders were to feature. The departure of the U.S. President took place against the backdrop of reports that the U.S. was mobilising fire power and refueling platforms for an operation in the Gulf region. Before leaving, Mr. Trump also supported the idea that he would rather expand G7 into a possible 'G9' by including Russia and China.

CONTINUED ON
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Air India cancels 16 flights; DGCA finds no major safety issues with Boeing 787s

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELH

The Directorate-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) called a high-level meeting with Air India and Air India Express officials on Tuesday after Air India's international flights continued to get delayed and cancelled due to a combination of factors, including technical glitches.

The regulator later said that the enhanced inspections of Air India's Boeing 787 fleet "did not reveal any major safety concerns" so far. The exercise, ordered by the regulator after the crash of Air India flight AI-171 on June 12, has been completed on 24 out of the 33 Boeing 787s of the airline.

"The recent surveillance conducted on Air India's Boeing 787 fleet did not reveal any major safety concerns. The aircraft and associated maintenance systems were found to be compliant with existing safety standards," the DGCA said.

On Tuesday, 16 Air India flights were cancelled due to unavailability of aircraft and glitches, the DGCA said. Thirteen of these were scheduled to be operated using Boeing 787 aircraft.

Since the crash, 83 flights operated on widebody aircraft, which include Boeing 787s and Boeing 777s, have been cancelled. Of these, 66 were Boeing 787 flights.

Some of the services cancelled on Tuesday included Air India's Ahmedabad-London, London-Amritsar, Delhi-Dubai, Bengaluru-London, Delhi-Vienna, Delhi-Paris and Mumbai-San Francisco flights, according to PTI.

According to Air India, Tuesday's cancellations were due to increased turnaround times because of a combination of factors which included the enhanced inspectionsas well as restrictions on Iranian airspace.

The DGCA has advised Air India to "mitigate passenger delays" resulting from maintenance-related issues. "The airline was advised to strengthen internal coordination and ensure availability of adequate spares," a DGCA statement said.

CONTINUED ON
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Change of plans: Passengers at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel international Airport in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, after an Air India flight to London was cancelled on Tuesday. VIJAY SONEJI

DNA profiling of victims likely to conclude today

MUMBAI
The massive effort to identify victims of the Air India flight AI-171 crash continues at the Ahmedabad Civil Hospital, where Medical Superintendent Rakesh Joshi confirmed the forensic team expects to complete DNA profiling of all victims by Wednesday. A total of 177 victims have been identified so far, Gujarat Minister of State for Home Harsh Sangahavi said on Tuesday. » PAGE 13

Cannot have mobs taking over streets: SC on *Thug Life* row

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court made it clear on Tuesday that rights of movie makers and theatre owners to release movies cannot be curtailed by threats of arson and violence while underscoring that the Karnataka government must ensure that Kamal Haasan's *Thug Life* is screened across the State.

"We cannot have mobs and vigilante groups take over our streets. Rule of law must prevail," Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, heading a Vacation Bench including Justice Manmohan, addressed the Karnataka government side.

The Bench was hearing a petition filed by Bengaluru resident M. Mahesh Reddy, represented by advocate Athenam Velan, seeking to ensure the safe and unimpeded screening of the CBFC-certified Tamil movie in Karnataka.

The movie came under a cloud following a statement made by Mr. Haasan about the Kannada language during its promotion. "If somebody has made a statement, reply with a statement. If somebody has written something, counter it with writing. You cannot resort to threats of violence and arson," Justice Bhuyan said.

The top court underscored that the movie should be screened across Karnataka. FILE PHOTO

Rule of law
"Rule of law says that you cannot stop the release of a film. It is the duty of the State to ensure a film is released after it gets the CBFC certificate. That is the law we follow... People may not come to see the film, but arson and gheraos of cinemas cannot come in the way of freedom of expression," Justice Manmohan underscored.

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M BG-BGE

Flashy workhorse Siraj and the head honcho's hat

The Hyderabad speedster will be expected to play the lead role in India's bowling attack as pace ace Bumrah is likely to miss a Test or two in the five-match series against England beginning in Leeds on June 20

Sankar Narayanan E.H.

Can Mohammed Siraj be the Scottie Pippen to Jasprit Bumrah's Michael Jordan?

India will need him to during this English summer.

If Shubman Gill's new-look Indian team has to go toe-to-toe against England, Siraj's performances have to be nothing short of top-notch.

Of all the Indian pacers who have boarded the flight for this five-match Test series, Siraj is the second-most experienced (36 Tests) and has played the second-most number of Tests in England (six). The answer to who is first is not exactly a secret.

Siraj's time with the Warwickshire County Cricket Club and his India-A exposure help him top the list of Indian speedsters with the most First Class wickets in England (46 scalps). Bumrah, with only India matches in the Old Blighty, has 38 wickets.

It will not be an understatement to suggest that Siraj is in for a long shift in the next couple of months.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Siraj's job description (strictly related to fast bowling duties here!) is expected to alternate between second-in-command and the head honcho as India will not have the services of pace ace Bumrah for at least two Tests (add most likely).

Make no mistake, it is a challenge of the highest order.

A quick scan of Siraj's stats with and without Bumrah alongside him reveals that the Hyderabad speedster is not averse to being the alpha.

After all, he was entrusted with the lead role in just his first foray into Test cricket.

A spate of injuries ahead of the fourth Test in India's 2020-21 Australia tour meant that Siraj, with all of two Tests under his belt, had to spearhead the extremely inexperienced Indian bowling attack.

He aced the trial by fire with panache, notching up his first Test five-wicket haul to set up India's series triumph Down Under.

What transpired in Brisbane in early January 2021 was an extraordinary tale of grit and determination from the young Indian brigade. Coach Gautam Gambhir will hope for an encore in England.

THE GIST

- A quick scan of Siraj's stats with and without Bumrah alongside him reveals that the former is not averse to being the alpha
- A spate of injuries ahead of the fourth Test in India's 2020-21 Australia tour meant that Siraj had to spearhead the extremely inexperienced bowling attack. He notched up his first Test five-wicket haul to set up India's series triumph Down Under
- Of all the Indian pacers who have boarded the flight for this five-match Test series, Siraj is the second-most experienced (36 Tests) and has played the second-most number of Tests in England (six)

Captain's delight

Siraj – the flashy workhorse that he is – is a captain's delight.

India's 37th Test skipper, Gill, is eagerly waiting to team up with Siraj and emulate their successful partnership in the Gujarat Titans colours.

"Siraj and I made our Test debuts together. We almost made our ODI debuts together, and we have played so many India-A matches together. So, having that bond with him and knowing what he is capable of helps," Gill told *Sky Sports*.

The skipper has every reason to be thrilled to have a potent weapon like Siraj in his arsenal, especially given how the pacer has shown unwavering commitment to Gill's predecessors.

"For 60 overs, they should feel like hell out there," a fired-up Virat Kohli – granted that that was the former India captain's default setting – had ordered his soldiers ahead of the fourth innings at Lord's in 2021. Your wish is my command, said Siraj.

Jos Buttler and Moeen Ali, in the middle of an alliance that went on for more than 15 overs, were looking comfortable. Siraj made sure the English batters felt uncomfortable from thereon. He nicked off Moeen and Sam Curran off consecutive balls and dished out a ripsnorter of a short ball at Ollie Robinson's chest, walked up straight at the batter and asserted he meant business.

The drama at Lord's after Siraj dismissed Buttler still does the rounds on Instagram reels.

Kohli gestured to his pacer to go for sharp bouncers aimed at No. 11 James Anderson's head. A pumped-up Siraj conveyed he was up for the task by repeating what his skipper signalled.

A bustling Siraj shortly castled Anderson and sealed India's 151-run win at the Home of Cricket.

Siraj conjured up his career-best figures in a Test (eight for 126) and ensured his skipper's war cry will go into the annals of Indian cricket.

Siraj again showcased his will to do whatever it takes for the team when Ben Stokes & Co. visited India in 2024.

Captain Rohit Sharma had asked his bowlers to be ready for longer spells in a team meeting as R. Ashwin had to return to Chennai due to a family emergency midway through the Rajkot Test. Siraj obliged and returned his best figures at home (four for 84).

"In the morning, when we got to know that *Ash bhai* was not there, more responsibility fell on us. *Rohit bhai* told us that we will need to bowl long spells, and I love bowling long spells," Siraj said after the third day's play.

"Since we were one bowler short, the remaining four bowlers had to bowl more. For a fast bowler in Test cricket, one cannot set up a batter in three or four overs. And we got success due to long spells," he added.

Interestingly, Siraj (5306 deliveries) and Bumrah (5381) have bowled almost the same number of balls in Test cricket since the former's debut on December 26, 2020.

Hunting in packs

Siraj is indeed keen on putting his hand up and leading the way when push comes to shove. However, he also understands the value of hunting in packs, especially when the guy bowling next to him is Bumrah.

Cut back to India's 2023-24 tour of South Africa; Siraj did not have a good start to the two-match series. He struggled to find rhythm in the first Test in Centurion (24-1-91-2) in a match that saw India lose by an innings and 32 runs.

It was as if the turn of the calendar flicked a switch in Siraj. He ripped through the Proteas line-up (bundled out for 55 in the first essay) and made sure India levelled the series 1-1 with a famous seven-wicket win in Cape Town. He thanked his partner in crime for the quick turnaround in fortunes.

"Whenever Jassi *bhai* shares a message, we understand which line and length is better on that wicket. I don't need to think too much once I get that message. I just need to be consistent and [I know] I will get success. I am very happy that Bumrah is at the other end [bowling with me]," Siraj said after producing his best figures in a Test innings (six for 15).

Bumrah, while translating to the broadcaster what Siraj said in Hindi, added his own thoughts on their synergy.

"When we play together, he gets the message a little earlier because of our experience.

"We try to analyse the wicket a little quicker so that the communication goes in the bowling circuit on how the pitch is behaving. This is what we look to do," Bumrah said.

Game-changer Bumrah

Siraj acknowledging Bumrah's genius is not a one-off occurrence.

"I'm only believe on Jassie *bhai*, because game-changer player he is only one guy, he is Jasprit Bumrah," Siraj said after India's miracle win over South Africa in the 2024 T20 World Cup final.

His English may be broken, but Siraj's genuine words filled with love and respect captured the raw emotions perfectly and resonated with one and all.

There was no stopping Siraj's tears in Barbados then, and India will expect there is no stopping him with the Dukes ball in hand on English shores next.

Influencer and influential

	Matches	Inns	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	BBI	BBM	Ave	Econ	SR	5w
Siraj's Test numbers	36	67	884.2	164	3074	100	6/15	8/126	30.74	3.47	53	3
Without Bumrah	14	25	284	58	913	33	5/60	6/150	27.66	3.21	51.6	2
With Bumrah	22	42	600.2	106	2161	67	6/15	8/126	32.25	3.59	53.7	1

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Actual Image

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Representative Image

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Representative Image

Breathe Nature

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Representative Image

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Representative Image

Live City

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KSRTC resumes recruitment after eight years; issues job letters to 2,000 new recruits

The long-delayed recruitment process, originally notified in 2020, was halted owing to COVID-19 outbreak; it was revived in October 2023, and the final selection list was published on June 12

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After eight years, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has resumed large-scale recruitment, with appointment orders issued on Tuesday to 2,000 driver-cum-conductor candidates.

The event took place at the KSRTC central office in Bengaluru, where Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy symbolically distributed appointment letters to 51 candidates.

The long-delayed recruitment process, originally notified in 2020, was halted owing to the COVID-19 outbreak. It was revived in October 2023 after government approval, and the final selection list was published on June 12, following a fully computerised and merit-based process, including skill tests conducted at Humnabad and Hassan training centres.

Mr. Reddy said: "We have conducted a transparent recruitment process and I urge the recruits to serve with responsibility, especially in ensuring the safety and comfort of women and students."

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy with driver-cum-conductor candidates at the KSRTC head office in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

> We have conducted a transparent recruitment process and I urge the recruits to serve with responsibility, especially in ensuring the safety and comfort of women and students
>
> **RAMALINGA REDDY,** Transport Minister

The KSRTC has made 2,500 appointments in the last 18 months, including compassionate jobs to 209 dependents. "Other employee welfare initiatives include the ₹1 crore Sarige Suraksha accident insurance and a revised Family Welfare Scheme offering ₹10 lakh compensation for natural deaths. Computerised counselling for the new recruits is under way and all appointees are expected to join duty by July 5, 2025," a senior KSRTC official said.

Meanwhile, the lack of regular recruitment over the years had led to a severe staff shortage in KSRTC, affecting the quality of services.

Ravi Kumar (name changed), a KSRTC driver with 15 years of experience, said: "It's a relief that new staff have finally been appointed. There was a serious shortage, and many of us were unable to take timely leaves because of the workload. With more trips being added and responsibilities increasing, the new recruits will definitely ease the pressure on existing employees."

CCB raids central prison, recovers banned items

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As part of a special drive, CCB officials on Monday raided the central prison at Parappana Agrahara and recovered banned items, including tobacco products, knives, chillum used for smoking and ₹16,180 in cash.

Phone smuggling

The raid was carried out close on the heels of a psychiatric counsellor being caught red-handed smuggling a mobile phone in her private part to be handed over to an undertrial.

Based on a tip-off that banned substances are still being used, a team of CCB sleuths visited the central prison without informing the prison officials, searched the barracks, and seized the items.

Even though the officials did not find any drugs, recovery of chillum made it evident that ganja is being used in the prison, officials said.

Illegal shops

The officials suspect that the accused were running illegal shops on the prison premises in collusion with the prison staff.

The CCB officials recovered a book containing the details of the sale of goods, which is being verified to ascertain the network.

Tumakuru–Rayadurga rail project picks up pace; over 96% of land acquired

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

After being mired in delays for nearly 16 years, the Tumakuru-Rayadurga railway line is finally witnessing rapid progress, with over 96% of the required land now handed over to the Railways and civil works under way across all key segments.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Tumakuru Deputy Commissioner Subha Kalyan said, "In the last 12 months, we have been able to systematically remove most of the bottlenecks that stalled this project for over a decade. By coordinating closely with revenue and land acquisition officers and maintaining consistent engagement with stakeholders, we've ensured that land acquisition is no longer a hurdle."

The 206-km rail line, connecting Tumakuru in Karnataka to Rayadurga in Andhra Pradesh, passes through five major sections – Tumakuru-Urukere, Urukere-Koratagere, Koratagere-Madhugiri, Madhugiri-Madakasira, and Madakasira-Doddahalli. With land now available in all five sections, railway officials have commenced civil works throughout the corridor.

Ms. Kalyan said that the administration has completed the handover of 331 acres and 16 guntas of land, processed 110 acres for acquisition, and completed joint measurements for another 108 acres.

Additionally, 19 acres were brought under acquisition through preliminary notifications and all required approval notifications were expedited.

"Many of the delays were due to unresolved compensation disputes and outdated revenue records. We organised taluk-wise resolution camps to help beneficiaries update their land records and receive compensation without delay. To fast-track progress, weekly coordination meetings were held involving officials from the Railways, Revenue, and Land Acquisition departments. On-the-ground interventions were also made, especially in areas like Dibbur and Veerasagara, where we personally oversaw house evictions and ensured the smooth handover of land that had been under dispute for years, have also resolved payment delays," she explained.

The Tumakuru-Rayadurga project is being implemented at an estimated cost of ₹2,500 crore and the railway line will reduce the distance between Tumakuru and Ballari by 130 km, significantly enhancing rail connectivity to the Kalyana Karnataka region.

A senior South Western Railway official said that these projects play a crucial role in enhancing Tumakuru's connectivity with other parts of Karnataka.

"Once completed, the railway line is expected to significantly boost connectivity and economic development in regions like Madhugiri and Pavagada. With major land acquisition hurdles now behind, the Tumakuru-Rayadurga railway line is expected to become operational by 2026, with full completion slated for 2027," SWR official added.

Tumakuru–Rayadurga railway project

- Total length of the project 206.53 km
- 102.63 km In Karnataka
- 103.90 km In Andhra Pradesh

The project is being implemented at an estimated cost of ₹2,500 crore and will reduce the distance between Tumakuru and Ballari by 130 km

IISc researchers unravel how lac insect produces pigment

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a new study, researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have unravelled the mystery behind how the lac insect produces laccaic acid that is used to make lac pigment. The lac pigment is a prized commodity used in food colouring, textiles, dyes, handicrafts, and folk art.

According to IISc, the lac insect grows on certain trees (like the flame of the forest), drinks its sugary sap, and secretes a sticky resin called shellac.

It also makes a bright red compound called laccaic acid, which is used to make the pigment.

"How the insect produces laccaic acid has remained a source of mystery. For decades, scientists have unsuccessfully hunted for genes coding for its synthesis in the insect's genome," IISc said.

However, now the researchers have found that the colourful pigment extracted from the lac insect may actually be produced by a symbiotic yeast-like organism living inside the insect.

The team also showed that the yeast-like organism exclusively harbours genes coding for key ingredients in the pigment synthesis pathway.

Insects surrounded by their resin seen attached on their host plant. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India, a key producer

"For thousands of years, India has been a key producer of lac pigment. The pathway for the pigment production was not very clear," said Shantanu Shukla, assistant professor in the Department of Developmental Biology and Genetics, IISc.

IISc said that one of the key ingredients required for laccaic acid synthesis is an amino acid called tyrosine, which the insect cannot make on its own or source from the tree sap. Such missing ingredients are usually supplied by symbiotic bacteria or fungi that live inside insect bodies and secrete these molecules in exchange for housing.

The team sequenced the entire bacterial and fungal microbiome of the insect and zeroed in on two possible candidates: a bacterium belonging to the Wolbachia genus and a yeast-like fungus.

Previous studies by other researchers had hinted at the presence of the fungus but had not identified it or sequenced its genome.

In the current study, the team found that neither the insect nor the bacterium carried the genes needed to make tyrosine and other components of the pigment pathway. But the yeast-like organism did – it carried the entire set of genes needed for laccaic acid production.

This includes genes coding for various enzymes which catalyse the production of aromatic molecules that are the building blocks of laccaic acid inside egg cell.

Government Dental College & Research Institute, Bangalore

Victoria Hospital Campus, Fort, Bangalore - 560 002.
Phone : 080-26705053 / 26703176, e-mail : gdcribangalore@gmail.com
website : www.karnataka.gov.in/gdcrib

No.:GDCRI/GRB/6/2025-26 Date: 17.06.2025

NOTIFICATION

Government Dental College and Research Institute, Bangalore, invites applications to constitute a Technical Advisory Committee for the renovation of the building, construction of a new three-storeied building and to upgrade of the equipment/furniture of this institution.
Interested candidates who meet the following eligibility criteria are requested to apply to this office **on or before 24.06.2025 up to 4.00 p.m.** through e-mail or in person along with relevant documents.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Eligibility Criteria
1	Chair Person of the TAC Committee	Chairperson Technical Advisory Committee. Must be a retired government official, not below the rank of Chief Engineer. Should have led projects worth over INR 50 Crores, with proven experience in modern construction practices. Exposure to public infrastructure projects and multidisciplinary co-ordination skill.
2	Expert Member-Plumbing requirement	Must be a chief engineer, retired BWSSB Plumbing Works Expert Expert in plumbing and sanitation systems in institutional or public infrastructure projects. Familiarity with medical-grade piping systems, drainage, and regulatory standards is required.
3	Expert Member-Civil requirement	Must be a retired government official, not below the rank of Chief Engineer. With proven experience in modern construction practices. Exposure to public infrastructure projects and multidisciplinary co-ordination skill. Having an experience in teaching would be an added advantage.
4	Expert Member-Electrical requirement	Must be a chief engineer, retired from KEB/ BESCOM Electrical Works Expert Professional with deep experience in electrical systems design and execution for institutional or government buildings. Must have handled large-scale projects involving power distribution, backup systems and safety compliance.
5	Expert Member - for dental education / Dentistry.	Dental Expert. Former principal (recd), any dental college of Karnataka with over twenty years of teaching experience. Should bring insights into academic workflows, infrastructure requirements for dental education, and future-readiness. Former Principal (Retd.), Any Dental College, Karnataka.
6	Expert Member - Technology for dental education / Dentistry.	Dental Expert. Former professor in any dental college of Karnataka with 20 years of teaching experience / practice in the field of Dentistry should bring insights into academic workflows, infrastructure requirements for dental education and future-readiness. Professor in any Dental College, Karnataka.

Applications can be mailed to on or before **24.06.2025, 04.00 PM** along with the scanned copies of the relevant documents to **gdcribangalore@gmail.com** / hard copies can be submitted to the below address **"The Dean and Director, Govt Dental College and Research Institute"**, Victoria Hospital Campus, K. R. Market, Bangalore - 560 002.

Sd/-
Dean and Director,
Govt Dental College and
Research Institute, Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/JA/1290/2025-26

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

AUCTION PROGRAMME NOTICE NO.GSD/BLW/SCRAP/02/2025-26 DATE:17.06.2025

Following is the schedule of e-auction to be held in the month of 'July, August & September' 2025 every Wednesday for sale of scrap under the jurisdictions of GSD / BLW, Varanasi. **Types of Auction:** e-auction from (10:30 Hrs.), **Depot:** GSD / BLW / Varanasi, **e-auction Date of July - 2025 (Wednesday):** 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th, **e-auction Date of August - 2025 (Wednesday):** 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th,-, **e-auction Date of September - 2025 (Wednesday):** 03rd, 10th,-, 24th,-,.You are requested to actively participate in the above scheduled e-auction. For details please visit **IREPS** website at **www.ireps.gov.in.**

PRO/BLW/S-13 **Dy.CMM/Depot**

/blwvaranasi Website- blw.indianrailways.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client has negotiated to purchase the property more fully described in the schedule hereunder. Any person having any claim, interest over the said property may contact the undersigned counsel with necessary documents in support of his claim within 15 days from today to the address given below, failing which it will be treated by my clients Sri.Santhosh.V and Sri.G.Giriyappa are no objections from any person for purchase schedule property from Smt.Parimala.Y.M W/o.Late Prakash Reddy. My client would go ahead with the sale transaction with the owner of the schedule property and shall not be liable for any claims whatsoever.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing No.121, Ward No.181-Kumaraswamy Layout, New PID No.8557320123 formed in Sy.No.19/3, 27/2 and 28/1 of Kadirenahalli Village, Bangalore South Taluk, presently situated at BSK 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560070, measuring East to West 48 + 52/2 feet and North to South 30 feet, consisting of 8 square RCC roofed residential building thereon and bounded on the:-

East by : Road,
West by : Private property,
North by : Site No.122,
South by : C.A.

Sd/-
N.R. NAIK & ASSOCIATES (ADVOCATES)
Off: # 147/7, Sri Rama Road, 2nd Block,
Thyagarajanagar, Bangalore - 560 028.
Mob: 9844067808 / 9845381250

Place: Bangalore
Date 16.06.2025

HUBLI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Corporate Office, P.B. Road, Navanager,
Hubballi-580 025 Tel. No. 9480883684
Website: www.hescom.karnataka.gov.in
E-mail ID: seeit@hescom.co.in, eeit1@hescom.co.in,
CIN : U31401KA2002SGC030437

No: HESCOM/SEEIT/IT1/1308/2025-26/cys-2396 Date : 17.06.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) only)

The Superintending Engineer (Ele), IT & MT, HESCOM, Hubballi, invites the following tenders in two parts (Part –I: Techno-Commercial Bid and Part-II : Price Bid) through KPPP for the following works

Sl.No.	Bid Indent No.	Tender Description
1	HESCOM/ 2025-26/ SE0387/ CALL-2	SUPPLY AND COMMISSIONING OF ONE NUMBER OF SINGLE PHASE AND ONE NUMBER OF THREE PHASE SMART METER TEST BENCHES AS PER TENDER TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS IN MRT DIVISION HUBBALLI.
2	HESCOM/ 2025-26/ SE0388/ CALL-2	SUPPLY AND COMMISSIONING OF ONE NUMBER OF SINGLE PHASE AND ONE NUMBER OF THREE PHASE SMART METER TEST BENCHES AS PER TENDER TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS IN MRT DIVISION BELAGAVI.

The details of the above tenders can be obtained by logging in to the website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (El)
No.DIPR/DWD/KSMCA/289/2025-26 **IT&MT, HESCOM, Hubballi.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client **Mr.M.K.Srikanta Sharma, Son of Mr. M.S. Krishnamurthy,** intends to purchase the immovable property described in the schedule hereunder from its owner, **Mr.Prabhakara.S.N, S/o.Mr.Narasimhaiah.N.**

Any person/s having any claim, title and interest over the schedule property or any objections to the proposed purchase, may file their objections in writing along with copies of supporting documents to the undersigned within **15 days** from the date of this publication and a copy of objections to our below mentioned office, failing which my clients will be advised to go ahead and complete the formalities for registered Sale Deed.

:: SCHEDULE ::

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing **Site No.2,** PID No.6000074319, formed in Sy. No.35/3, in the layout 'ENGINEERS ENCLAVE', situated at **Hemmigepura Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore,** measuring East to West **14.50 mtrs.,** North to South **12.19 mtrs.,** in all measuring **176.75 sq.mtrs.,** and bounded on :

East by:Site No.1, West by:Site No.3, North by: Site No.12, 13 & 14, South by: 15.00 mtr Road;

Sahai Kumar, Advocate,
311, 2nd Floor, 3rd Main, 3rd Phase,
J.P. Nagar, Bangalore-560 078
Call : 9845090974

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Mr. Akbar Khan S/o Mr.Abdul Gaffar** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **1) Mr.D.Doraipandiyan S/o Mr.Dhanashekar and 2) Miss.D.Shruthi D/o Mr.D.Doraipandiyan;** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing **Site No.1091,** BBMP e-PID No.2701884139, forming a part of Assessment No.97, Situated at **6th Cross, Ramakrishna Hegde Nagar, Rachenahalli Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,** Measuring East to West **50 Feet,** North to South **30 Feet,** totally Measuring **1500 Square Feet,** (BBMP) Ward No.6, along with a residential house standing there and bounded on the:

East by : Road, West by : Site No.1116, North by : Site No.1090, South by : Site No.1092

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 9108784843, 080-48658774
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), N.R. Circle, Bangalore -560 002

No:JD(AH)/PR-133/2025-26 Date: 17.06.2025

NOTIFICATION

Regarding the quotation from interested parties for the work of feeding community dogs at least once a day within the jurisdiction of the BBMP.
Regarding the proposed subject, it is planned to organize a program to feed community dogs deprived of food at least once in a day. The BBMP has requested interested parties to submit their quotations (including GST) in a sealed envelope to the above address by **05:00 PM on 24.06.2025.** Details regarding the food provided to community dogs at least once a day can be obtained during office hours at the above address or through the Google link below.
https://drive.google.com/file/d/10dR73F5UcSvjRaPlgKsXiDXkyCGKsoLW/view?usp=sharing

Sd/-
Joint Director (Animal Husbandry), BBMP.

BAGALKOT TOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BAGALKOT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
Bagalkote Town Development Authority, Division No. : 02,
Bagalkote - 587 102, Ph. : 08354-297054, E-mail : eebtda2@gmail.com

No. : E.E./B.T.D.A./Dn.02/PB-01/Tender No. : 02/2025-26/755
Date : 16-06-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION No. 02
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

As per the Tender Procedure of KTPP Act, tenders are invited for pertaining to **Indent No. 61 and 82** from registered eligible contractors Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.

The intending bidders for work details may login to Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website : www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for detailed notification and Submission of the tender. The Tenders can be Submitted till : 30-06-2025 up to 5.00 p.m., Technical Bids will be Opened on : 02-07-2025 at 11.00 a.m., (if possible) and Financial Bids will be Opened on : 03-07-2025 at 11.00 a.m., (if possible).

Any other details can be obtained from this office in Person or over Telephone Number : 08354 - 297 054.

Note : Please note henceforth, any changes in calendar of events Corrigendum / Addendum will be published in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only and will not published in Newspaper.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/Bagalkote/122/Manipal/2025-26 **BTDA, Division. No. 02, Bagalkote.**

Rice reveals surprise ability to adapt to cold faster than evolution

A landmark study has shown that rice plants that have learned to tolerate cold temperatures by changing epigenetic marks on a gene called *ACT1* could also pass the ability to express this gene down five generations; this change was induced by exposing normal rice plants to low temperatures which gives credence to Lamarck's views on evolution

Arun Panchapakesan

In the early 1800s, 'the theory of acquired characters' was the most widely accepted explanation of evolution. Simply put, the theory stated that characteristics that an organism developed during its lifetime, through use, disuse or environmental influence, could be inherited by its offspring.

The French naturalist Jean-Baptiste Lamarck formalised this idea in two laws in 1809, and it remained unrivalled until half a century later. In 1859, Charles Darwin proposed natural selection, which said that variations are passed from parents to offspring and that changes that confer benefits survive while the detrimental ones perish. The two ideas co-existed for a brief while until two major scientific developments challenged Lamarck's views.

The first was German evolutionary biologist August Weismann's demonstration that even after cutting the tails of mice continuously for over five generations, there was no inheritance of this acquired characteristic in the offspring. The second was the rediscovery of the work of Gregor-Johann Mendel, who showed that inheritance is governed by stable, particulate units (now called genes) that are passed unchanged from parents to offspring.

The integration of Mendel's work with Darwin's ideas laid the foundation for understanding heredity. When DNA was later identified as the genetic material, it explained how changes in DNA sequence (called mutations) are passed from parents to offspring. Traits that improve an organism's chances of survival and reproduction are more likely to be passed on while less advantageous traits tend to be lost over time. This was called, in short, survival of the fittest.

For a long time, Lamarck's ideas lay forgotten.

Researchers subjected the rice plant *Oryza sativa* to low temperatures and used the number and quality of seeds produced as a way to assess how well the rice adapted. WOODY YAN/UNSPLASH

If you have it, express it

In 1956, Canadian plant geneticist Royal Alexander Brink noticed something strange in maize. Despite having two copies of the gene for rich, purple-coloured kernels, some plants produced only weak pigments. Even more curious, their offspring also showed weak pigmentation despite carrying the same genes. This suggested that something other than DNA was influencing the trait and that this mysterious influence was heritable.

Scientists soon realised that having a gene is not enough: it must also be expressed, meaning its information must be used to make proteins. This expression is regulated in various ways. One important method involves small chemical tags added to the DNA that help cells decide whether a gene should be switched on or off. This system of gene regulation without altering the DNA sequence is called epigenetics.

In 1975, scientist Arthur Riggs proposed that these chemical tags, or epigenetic marks, could be inherited. This meant organisms could potentially pass on instructions about gene activity without changing their DNA sequence. Since it's easier to change these marks than to mutate DNA, it raised an intriguing possibility: if an environmental trigger caused a heritable epigenetic change, then Lamarck might have been partly right.

Inheritance, at least in some cases, could be due to environmental influence. The DNA itself didn't need to change.

Over the next 50 years, sporadic reports appeared stating that this might be the case – but none were convincing enough to firmly prove that a natural environmental cue could induce a heritable epigenetic change.

Lamarck redeemed

On May 22, a landmark study published in *Cell* showed, for the first time, that rice plants can acquire tolerance to cold temperatures by changing the epigenetic marks on a gene called *ACT1*. Surprisingly, this change was induced by exposing normal rice plants to low temperatures. Even more surprisingly, the change was heritable over five generations – proof that what Lamarck suggested over two centuries ago could indeed happen, albeit in a laboratory. The authors of the study achieved the feat by subjecting the rice plant *Oryza sativa* to low temperatures and using the number and quality of seeds produced as a way to assess how well the rice adapted. They observed that from the second generation onwards, seed quality improved and, importantly, the improvement was sustained across subsequent generations.

ACT1 is normally expressed at high levels in rice. But when exposed to cold, its expression is switched off by the addition of a methyl group, an epigenetic tag that tells the plant's cells not to produce the protein. Without sufficient _ACT1_, normal rice plants struggle to survive in the cold

Then they sequenced the total DNA of the cold-adapted rice and compared it with a control group grown under identical conditions but without the cold exposure. Although they found multiple genetic differences, none appeared to account for the enhanced cold tolerance. They next examined differences in gene expression between the two groups and identified 12 genes whose activity varied.

To understand why these 12 genes produced different levels of protein, the researchers investigated epigenetic marks and discovered more than 12,380 differences between the two groups. One of these changes was near a gene they called *ACT1*. Interestingly, *ACT1* was also among the 12 genes with altered expression.

What life has endured

The team then explored how this epigenetic change regulated *ACT1*. They found that ACT1, a gene involved in plant growth and development, is normally expressed at high levels in rice. But when exposed to cold, its expression is switched off by the addition of a methyl group, an epigenetic tag that tells the plant's cells not to produce the protein. Without sufficient *ACT1*, normal rice plants struggle to survive in the cold. The cold-adapted plants, however, didn't add this methyl signal. As a result, they continued to produce the *ACT1* protein, which supported their development under cold stress. These epigenetic marks were then passed on to their offspring, ensuring subsequent generations also expressed *ACT1* and survived in cold conditions.

In the century or so since they were discarded, Lamarck's ideas on evolution have been exhumed several times – mostly for criticism. It is perhaps poetic that nature itself had to step in to show us that he was not entirely wrong and that the environment can indeed influence heredity. The cold-adapted rice has shown us that sometimes, very rarely, inheritance is not determined by the code for life but rather by what that life has endured.

(Arun Panchapakesan is an assistant professor at the Y.R. Gaitonde Centre for AIDS Research and Education, Chennai. arun.panchapakesan@gmail.com)

THE GIST

The French naturalist Jean-Baptiste Lamarck formalised the theory of acquired characters; Darwin proposed natural selection. The two ideas co-existed for a brief while until major developments forced Lamarck's theory into dormancy

When researchers proposed that epigenetic marks could be inherited, it raised the possibility that if an environmental trigger caused a heritable change, then Lamarck might have been partly right. Inheritance could be due to environmental influence. The DNA itself didn't need to change

Lamarck's ideas on evolution have been exhumed several times — mostly for criticism. It is perhaps poetic that nature itself had to step in to show us that he was not entirely wrong and that the environment can indeed influence heredity

BIG SHOT

An aerial firefighter drops water on a wildfire in Ano Souli near Athens, Greece, on June 16. About 140 firefighters assisted by 38 engines and 18 aircraft fought the blaze, which was burning through a thick forest, gaining control over it by Monday. To their advantage, there were no heavy winds to fan the fires. REUTERS

QUESTION CORNER

What is synthetic aperture radar?

Vasudevan Mukunth

Q Synthetic aperture radar (SAR) is a way to make sharp pictures even when it's dark or cloudy. Instead of using visible light like a regular camera, SAR systems send out microwave pulses and record the echoes that bounce back from the ground, ocean, ice or buildings. Then, clever signal processing turns those echoes into detailed images.

The key element is the antenna that receives the echoes. Usually, the longer a physical antenna, the better the resolution — but a large antenna is hard to build and maintain. On a SAR, a small antenna is carried on a moving platform like a satellite. As a result each echo is recorded at a slightly different position. By stitching them together with precise timing and phase information, software can help mimic a single antenna hundreds of metres long.

Since microwaves penetrate clouds, smoke, and even light rainfall, SAR can collect data 24/7. If a SAR unit is mounted on an orbiting satellite, it can map swaths of land hundreds of kilometres wide in a single overpass. Different materials like soil, vegetation, water, and metals reflect microwaves differently, allowing SAR to detect changes invisible to optical sensors.

An artist's concept of the NISAR satellite in earth orbit. The radar antenna reflector is deployed on top. NASA

On June 12, NASA said the NASA-ISRO SAR (NISAR) mission had arrived at ISRO's spaceport in Sriharikota. Once it's launched, NISAR will "scan nearly all of earth's land and ice surfaces twice every 12 days," providing "an unprecedented amount of information about our planet's environment."

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to
science@thehindu.co.in
with the subject 'Daily page'

#TechnologyForSustainableGrowth

LARSEN & TOUBRO

Address by
Mr. S. N. Subrahmanyan
Chairman & Managing Director

INDIA STANDS RESOLUTE

L&T participates in national resurgence - strengthening security, driving progress and boosting inclusive growth.

Dear Shareholders,

I am addressing you at a time when there is a groundswell of sentiment across the country bolstering the nation's sovereignty, security and strength. As a company that wears its India colours with pride, we now reaffirm our collective resolve to advance our country's interests. Yesterday, today and for all the tomorrows to come, we are here to ensure that the *Tiranga* flies high.

The year under review has been transformative — not just for your Company, but for the global landscape. Geopolitical realignments, rapid strides in emerging technologies, climate challenges and disruptions in global supply chains have all reshaped the way businesses operate.

Amidst this macroeconomic environment, I am pleased to report that your Company has delivered a standout performance. We have accelerated digital adoption across business verticals, strengthened project execution capabilities, and enhanced customer value through smarter, more sustainable solutions. With a robust order book, an evolving pipeline of opportunities, and a purpose-led approach to sustainable infrastructure and development, L&T is well positioned to lead in a fast-changing world.

80TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING | JUNE 17, 2025

Growth with a Difference

Your Company is closely monitoring the global economic landscape, especially given that a substantial part of our Group's business originates outside India. We remain optimistic about the Middle East, which continues to invest significantly in both physical and digital infrastructure while monetising its oil and gas assets. This confidence is reinforced by the consistent inflow of orders from the region.

New Age Airport Being Built at Panvel, Navi Mumbai

Domestically, we anticipate that the Government of India will maintain strong budgetary support for infrastructure development, recognising its multiplier effect on economic growth. Encouragingly, we are witnessing increased private capital investment in emerging sectors such as energy transition, data centers, electronics and semiconductors, as well as in traditional industries like healthcare and real estate.

Our record-high order book ensures revenue visibility over multiple quarters. Guided by core values of transparency, integrity, professionalism, governance and accountability, your Company remains committed to inclusive growth.

Group Businesses

Transforming Rail Travel with India's Bullet Train Project

1. Infrastructure

Your Company's capability in delivering large-scale, complex EPC projects remains unmatched.

Milestones:

- Inauguration of Mumbai Metro Line 3 Package 7 and the Riyadh Metro
- A major breakthrough in India's longest railway tunnel under RVNL Package 4, carved through challenging Himalayan terrain
- Successfully commissioned the 1.6 GW AC Sudair Solar PV project in Saudi Arabia
- Achieved completion of the 1.4 GW AC Al Kahfah Solar PV project and 2 GW AC Ar Rass 2 Solar PV Project in Saudi Arabia
- Inauguration of National Cricket Academy, Bengaluru and GMCHs in Jamshedpur and Jajpur
- Over two million people benefitted from the commissioning of 10 water supply projects

2. Energy

Your Company is at the forefront of the global energy transition, with decarbonisation embedded in its strategic roadmap.

Key Achievements:

- Commissioned the 9.0 MMTPA Crude & Vacuum Distillation Unit of HPCL Visakhapatnam Refinery
- Completion of First Offshore Decommissioning Project in Tapti Gas Fields
- The Company secured its largest ever order from an offshore project in the Middle East

Setting Global Benchmarks: Hasbah-II Offshore Project, KSA

Delivering the Decisive Edge – K-9 Vajra-T Tracked Howitzer

3. Hi-Tech Manufacturing

Heavy Engineering Division continues to be a global leader in engineered-to-order equipment, buoyed by renewed investments in the oil & gas sector and underpinned by advanced Industry 4.0 practices.

The Precision Engineering & Systems Division is capitalising on the Government of India's localisation drive and exploring commercial applications of its core capabilities.

Key Achievements:

- On-time delivery of the world's heaviest EO, Hydrotreating and HP-HX reactors
- Record-breaking order from Saudi Arabia for over 100 Filter Vessels
- Strong contributions to the *Aatmanirbhar Bharat* initiative with:
  - Development of Next Gen Helo Harnessing and Traversing system for 11 naval ships
  - Progress on fleet support ships and a Light Tank prototype co-developed with DRDO

4. Services (IT, Engineering, Digital and Financial)

Your Company's listed services businesses remain focused on long-term value creation.

- **LTIMindtree:** India's 6th largest IT firm, enabling digital transformation and innovation-led growth for enterprises globally
- **L&T Technology Services:** A leader in Engineering R&D, now operating in over 25 countries
- **L&T Finance:** A technology-driven NBFC with a domestic 'AAA' rating and a 97% retailised loan book

5. New-age Businesses

- **L&T-SuFin:** A B2B digital marketplace that streamlines procurement, supply chains, logistics and financing
- **L&T-Cloudfiniti:** 32 MW of existing data center capacity with additional capacity in the pipeline
- **L&T Semiconductor Technologies:** Aiming to be India's first fabless semiconductor firm
- **L&T EduTech:** Bridging industry-academia gaps with digital skilling solutions

5G Centre to Power Tomorrow's Services

Group Performance Review

Shareholder value creation remains a key priority through the strategic divestment of non-core assets, realisation of cost efficiencies, adoption of technology to enhance productivity and focused capital allocation towards energy transition initiatives, as well as emerging businesses and digital platforms.

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Directors has recommended a final dividend of₹ 34/- per share for FY 2024–25.

Group Performance Overview
FY 2024-25

Order Inflow	₹ 3,56,631 crore (up 18%)
Order Book	₹ 5,79,137 crore (up 22%)
Revenue	₹ 2,55,734 crore (up 16%)
EBITDA	₹ 26,435 crore (up 13%)
PAT	₹ 15,037 crore (up 15%)

New Age Solutions

(a) Digital and AI Transformation

Your Company has been a frontrunner in adopting and integrating technology, beginning with automation and progressing to Industrial IoT, well ahead of the broader digital transformation trend.

(b) Building Climate Resilience and Advancing the Green Business Agenda

The increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events have elevated the risks of asset damage and service disruptions. Your Company is uniquely positioned to meet the rising demand for disaster-resilient infrastructure, backed by deep expertise in Clean Energy, Clean Mobility, Water and Sanitation, Green Infrastructure, and other sustainability-linked domains.

India's Largest Floating Solar Project, Madhya Pradesh

L&T has taken bold strides into emerging clean energy segments, particularly in Green Hydrogen and its derivatives, as well as the development of Small Modular Reactors. Electrolyser manufacturing is already underway, reinforcing our early-mover advantage in the Green Hydrogen space.

(c) Sustainability: Building 'A Better World'

Your Company's sustainability agenda is firmly anchored in its vision 'For A Better World', encompassing a broad spectrum of initiatives across Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) dimensions. The Company remains steadfast in its commitment to water stewardship, circular economy, green supply chains, biodiversity preservation, employee welfare and community development.

In line with its long-term environmental goals, your Company has pledged to achieve Water Neutrality by 2035 and Carbon Neutrality by 2040.

Key Developments

Ratings Upgrade

Global rating agencies Standard & Poor's and Fitch assigned a 'BBB+' credit rating with a Stable Outlook, positioning the Company two notches above India's sovereign rating.

People Powering Progress

L&T's continued success is driven by its people. By consistently attracting top talent, promoting continuous learning and self-development and nurturing an entrepreneurial mindset, the Company has cultivated a culture of innovation — reflected in the many breakthrough solutions L&T is known for today.

Employees benefit from a rich ecosystem of online learning platforms that supplement conventional classroom training with flexible, self-paced development opportunities. This year, 7.95 lakh learning hours were logged.

A culture of recognition and celebration continues to fuel high performance, foster healthy competition, and reinforce mutual respect among teams. This employee-centric approach has once again earned the Company the prestigious 'Great Place to Work' certification for the second consecutive year, reaffirming L&T's position as an employer of choice.

Creating Safer Workplaces

Safety remains a top priority, driven by the 'Mission Zero Harm' philosophy and the 'L.I.F.E.' (Live Injury-Free Everyday) framework. Safety capabilities have been significantly strengthened through enhanced supervision, regular safety briefings and extensive training, leveraging AR/VR technologies.

Driving Inclusion Through Transformation

With a strong commitment to creating an inclusive work environment, your Company continues to invest in career-enabling initiatives and women-centric infrastructure. These efforts have placed it on track to achieve the 'Lakshya' goal of 10% women representation by 2026. As of March 31, 2025, the number of permanent female employees stood at 4,758, accounting for 9.06% of the total workforce.

In a pioneering industry-first initiative, your Company has introduced one day of paid menstrual leave per month for women employees, effective April 1, 2025. This progressive step reflects the Company's empathetic approach to employee well-being, acknowledging and supporting the unique health needs of women at the workplace.

Giving Back to Society

Your Company remains committed to inclusive growth and building long-term, trust-based relationships with all stakeholders. Through CSR interventions in healthcare, education, skill development and water & sanitation, L&T positively impacted the lives of 1.9 million people during the year.

Since 2014, L&T's *Unnati* watershed development programme has adopted an integrated approach in ecologically sensitive districts of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. The programme has treated 44,856 hectares of land and benefitted 30,092 households.

Creating Tomorrow's Scientists through STEM Education Programmes

The *Jyoti* STEM Education Programme bridges foundational learning gaps in grades 6–8 across government schools in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra by equipping classrooms with digital tools, robotics kits, space learning aids and edu-reels. In FY 2024–25, 314 schools and 52,924 students benefitted from the programme.

Governance and Ethics

The Company remains steadfast in its commitment to the highest standards of ethics, transparency and accountability across all its operations.

I express my gratitude to our employees, customers, supply chain partners and the Government for their continued support and contribution to our journey. I am also thankful to my fellow Board members for their guidance and commitment.

A special word of thanks to our shareholders — your enduring trust is our greatest strength. We look forward to your continued support as we strive for higher benchmarks of excellence and sustainable growth.

JAI HIND

This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of Larsen & Toubro Limited held on June 17, 2025.(CMD Photo Credit: Narendra Bisht, Fortune India)

For the Chairman's Statement, please visit investors.Larsentoubro.com

CBMC/SSP/2025JUNE17

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Aid to be given to each family affected by oil rig blowout in Assam

25,000 in ₹. The aid will go to those affected by a blowout at an ONGC crude oil well in Sivasagar district, with the release of gases continuing for the sixth day. The blowout began on June 12 at Bhatiapar. PTI

The projected oil demand of India by the year 2030

1 in million barrels per day. Global oil demand is expected to grow by 2.5 million barrels a day by the end of the decade, reaching a plateau near 105.5 million barrels per day (bpd) by 2030, the IEA said in its latest report. The world is expected to remain well supplied through the end of the decade, IEA said. PTI

Shares of hours where Delhi experiences ideal conditions

3 In per cent. A study found that Delhi records around 2,210 thermally comfortable hours with outdoor temperature in the range of 18°C to 31°C. But 1,951 of those hours coincide with poor air quality. That leaves just 259 hours in the year, about 3%, when people enjoy clean air and pleasant temperatures. PTI

Informal workers who have benefitted from welfare schemes

50 in lakh. The labour welfare schemes have particularly benefitted those engaged in beedi, cinema and mining sectors, the Ministry of Labour and Employment said. These workers do not have access to social security schemes run by other bodies like the EPFO. PTI

Palestinians killed while waiting for aid trucks in Gaza

45 The circumstances of the killings were not immediately clear. Palestinians say Israeli forces have repeatedly opened fire on crowds trying to reach food distribution points since the centres opened last month. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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What is Netanyahu's endgame in Iran?

Israel has aerial superiority, and it continues to bomb Iran with the objective of destroying its nuclear programme. But there are problems. One, Israel doesn't have strategic bombers that can carry bombs to destroy heavily fortified nuclear facilities in Iran. Therefore, Israel's offensive is not going to conclude any time soon

WORLD INSIGHT

Stanly Johny

When Israel launched an all-out air war against Iran on June 13, it said the attack was aimed at destroying Iran's nuclear programme. On day one, Israel bombed Iran's Natanz nuclear facility and several ballistic missile sites, besides assassinating the country's top Generals, including the chief of the armed forces. In the subsequent days, Israel bombed the nuclear facility in Isfahan, Iran's command centres, missile launchers, civilian locations and even the headquarters of the state TV. Israel has established air superiority over Iran. In retaliation, Iran launched close to 400 missiles, hitting several targets in Israel, including an oil refinery in Haifa and a top research institute near Tel Aviv.

While the air war is escalating, there are questions about Israel's endgame. What does Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu want?

If it is the destruction of Iran's nuclear programme, Israel is far from achieving it. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the UN's nuclear watchdog, said on June 16 that Israel's attack "severely damaged if not entirely destroyed" the centrifuges at the Natanz facility. The Israeli strike had "completely destroyed" the above-ground facility at Natanz, according to IAEA chief Rafael Grossi. The underground hall housing the centrifuges that enrich uranium was not directly hit. "However, the loss of power to the cascade hall may have damaged the centrifuges there," he said. Mr. Grossi also said four buildings were destroyed at the Isfahan Nuclear Technology Centre – a chemical lab, a uranium conversion plant, a fuel manufacturing plant, and a facility to convert uranium hexafluoride to uranium metal. But there was no major damage to the Fordow enrichment plant, which is Iran's most fortified facility that has been built deep under a mountain.

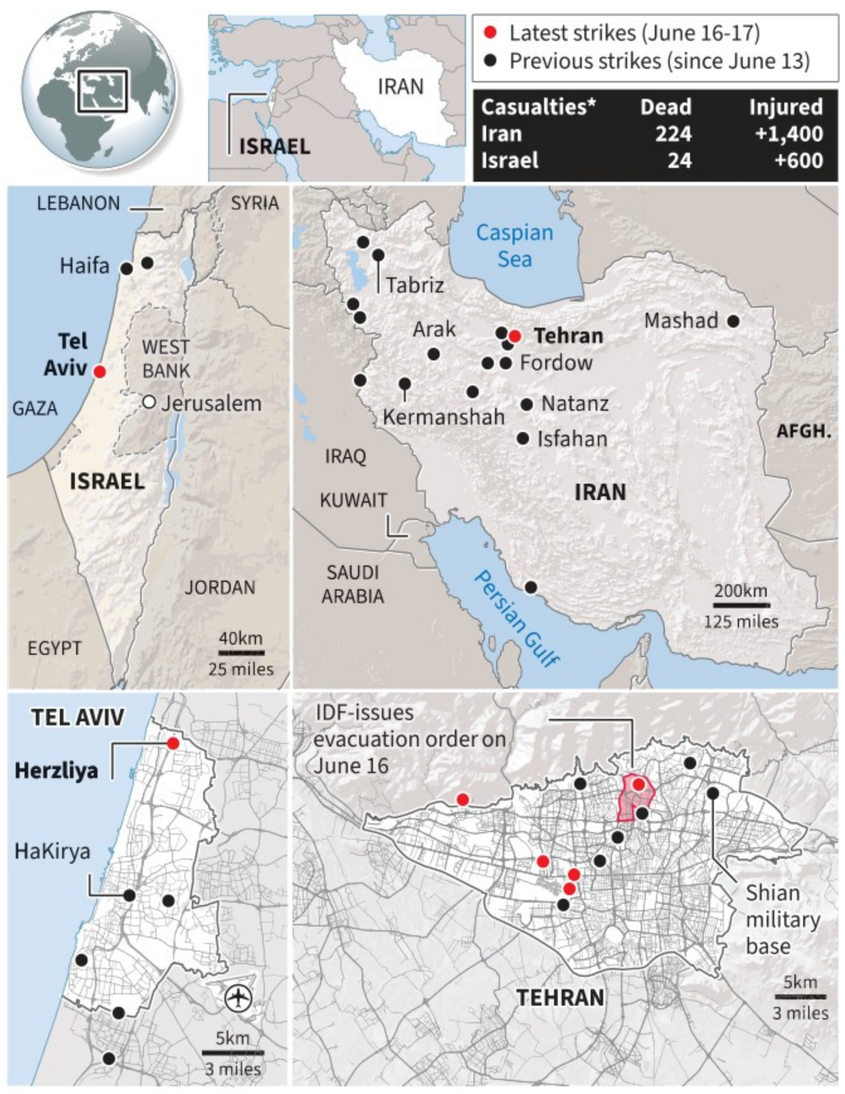
As Israel has aerial superiority, it can continue to bomb Iran. But there are two problems. One, Israel doesn't have the kind of bunker buster bombs or strategic bombers that can carry such bombs to destroy heavily fortified facilities such as Fordow. Therefore, Israel's offensive is not going to be concluded any time soon. And two, despite Israel taking out most of Iran's chain of command in the initial strike, Tehran is hitting back with drones and ballistic missiles. Israel's air strikes in Iran have not reduced the intensity of Iranian missile barrages. At least 24 people have been killed so far in Israel. The Ben Gurion airport in Tel Aviv, the country's main airport, remained shuttered. If Israel's air strikes do not blunt Iran's fire power, Mr. Netanyahu could come under greater pressure at home to wrap up the war quickly. And if Israel accepts a ceasefire without destroying Iran's nuclear facilities, it could be seen as defeat.

This leaves Mr. Netanyahu with three options.

Escalating conflict: Smoke and fire rise from an impacted facility following a missile attack from Iran on Israel, at Haifa, Israel on June 15. REUTERS

Expanding the war

Israeli officials are pressing the U.S. to join the war because Israel needs U.S. military involvement to meet their objectives — total destruction of Iran's nuclear facilities



Casualties*	Dead	Injured
Iran	224	+1,400
Israel	24	+600

*Figures since Jun 13 from Iran's health ministry and Israel's government

Sources: ISW, Reuters, BBC

© GRAPHIC NEWS

State collapse

One is to continue the relentless bombing of Iran, destroying state institutions and infrastructure, decapitating the regime and pushing for a state collapse or regime change in Tehran. On June 15, while speaking to *Fox News*, Mr. Netanyahu said Israel's attack could lead to regime change in Iran. The next day, he refused to rule out assassinating Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's Supreme Leader, saying killing him would end the conflict. But there is a grey area. Before starting the war, Mr. Netanyahu had urged the Iranians to rise against their government. But when Israel started widespread bombing across the country, killing hundreds of Iranians, it was an 'I-told-you' moment for the Iranian government, who always warned the public of the threats from "the Zionist entity". So it is to be seen whether the Israeli bombings would weaken or strengthen the political and social roots of the regime.

Path of diplomacy

The second option is diplomacy.

Even after the Israeli strike began, U.S. President Donald Trump said he was open for a deal with Iran. On June 16, there were reports that Iran had sent feelers to America through Gulf Arab countries that it was ready to return to talks if Israel stopped bombing. Mr. Trump's initial posts suggested that he wanted to use the Israeli strikes as an added layer of pressure on the Iranians to get the deal he wanted. While Iran is ready to scale back the programme, it is not ready to give up its capabilities. Mr. Trump wants Iran to completely abandon its nuclear programme. Even if Iran is ready to seriously consider Mr. Trump's offer, will they return to talks when the country is under attack? So far Iran has said no. So the next question is whether Mr. Netanyahu will stop his attacks to facilitate talks between the U.S. and Iran? If that would be the case, why did Mr. Netanyahu start the war in the first place, three days ahead of a sixth round of talks between the U.S. and Iran? This indicates that a nuclear deal between the U.S. and Iran has never been Israel's priority.

American involvement

The third option is to drag the U.S. into the war. Mr. Trump has so far maintained that America is not involved in the war. But he admitted that he was aware of Israel's attack plans even when he publicly voiced opposition to them. Israeli officials say they went ahead after getting "a clear green light" from the U.S. Mr. Trump has warned Iran not to target American bases or soldiers. And Iran has been careful not to escalate the war beyond Israel. But Israeli officials, according to *Axios*, are pressing the U.S. to join the war because Israel needs American military involvement to meet their objectives – total destruction of Iran's nuclear facilities either through direct strikes or through regime change.

If Tehran falls, that would be an added boost for Israel's efforts to reshape West Asia. The Assad regime in Syria is already gone. Iran's network of militants has been weakened. Gaza lies in ruins. In the West Bank, Israel is free to do whatever it wants to do. Arab nations voice protests meekly. If Iran is weakened, Russia's remaining strategic influence in West Asia will shrink further. China will be more dependent on America's Gulf Arab allies for oil. Mr. Trump's position, as of now, is to let Israel continue the bombing. He will not call for a ceasefire. But as the war drags on, with both Israel and Iran hitting each other, Mr. Trump will come under greater pressure to join the war.

THE GIST

- The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the UN's nuclear watchdog, said on June 16 that Israel's attack "severely damaged if not entirely destroyed" the centrifuges at the Natanz facility.
- On June 16, there were reports that Iran had sent feelers to America through Gulf Arab countries that it was ready to return to talks if Israel stopped bombing.
- Mr. Trump has so far maintained that America is not involved in the war.

Bangalore University plans 2.5-km flyover on Jnana Bharathi campus

Proposal follows an increase in vehicular density on the campus and the resultant disturbance to academic activities

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To decrease traffic density inside its Jnana Bharathi campus, the Bangalore University is planning to construct a 2.5-km-long flyover connecting Mysuru Road and Ullal Main Road.

"Following the increase in vehicle density on the campus and the resultant disturbance to academic activities, the university has placed a proposal before Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar, during his recent visit to the Jnana Bharathi campus, to construct a flyover," a source in the university said.

"It has become an everyday struggle to take classes and also for students to concentrate due to the movement of vehicles. Noise pollution has increased causing disturbance to academic activities," said an official source from the university.

A proposal on the flyover is expected to be submitted to the State government after discussing it in the Syndicate. FILE PHOTO

A proposal on the flyover will soon be submitted to the government of Karnataka after discussing it in the Syndicate.

Two main roads pass through Jnana Bharathi campus – one from Mysuru Road towards Ullal and another from Nagarbhavi towards Kengeri. There has been a lot of traffic on both these roads, and accidents are common during peak hours. In this context, it has been a long-standing demand of Bangalore University students to impose restrictions on public vehicle inside the campus.

PG student's death

Two years ago, a post-graduate student, Shilpashree, had died in a bus accident that occurred on the campus. Following this, the students had urged the authorities to impose restrictions on public vehicle inside the campus again.

The university, considering the students' protest, has imposed restrictions on vehicles from Nagarabhavi to Kengeri after 10 p.m.

Lokesh Ram, a Ph.D scholar, said, "We witness many accidents on the campus. Many of our friends residing in the university hostels are becoming victims. How can we forget Shilpashree who died in an accident inside the campus two years ago? During morning hours, walkers and joggers get into the campus in their vehicles, park them and walk. We demand that this also should be banned. Construction of flyover will definitely put an end to all these."

Another student, who did not wish to be named, said, "We see people enter campus in cars, bikes to even throw garbage. If this continues, students will be forced to act as marshals and stop visitors at the entrance."

M.C. Sudhakar, Minister of Higher Education, said that there is a proposal to construct flyover connecting Mysuru Road and Ullala Main Road passing through Jnana Bharathi campus.

"It is under discussion and we will take an appropriate decision in this regard soon," said the Minister.

Delving into multiple layers of Tamil identity

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Nirmala Lakshman, Publisher and Chairperson of The Hindu Group of Publications; Ramachandra Guha, writer and historian, and Ranvir Shah, cultural activist, philanthropist, and businessman, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The rich repository of Tamil heritage and culture has largely remained invisible to the wider world, said Nirmala Lakshman, Publisher and Chairperson of The Hindu Group of Publications, speaking at a discussion on her book *The Tamils,* at the Bangalore International Centre here on Tuesday.

Ms. Lakshman described how it took her four years of multiple journeys across Tamil Nadu, studying, researching and listening to stories of people, to come up with the book.

"I spoke to epigraphists, historians, experts as well as ordinary people who generously shared their experiences, their sense of culture and tradition, and I discovered that multiple narratives coexisted," she noted.

It was during this journey, Ms. Lakshman said, that she realised how a large part of it still remained unknown to the larger world. "Many expert voices had not been heard outside of Tamil Nadu and Tamil world which led me to realise that the wealth of knowledge of the rich repository of Tamil heritage and culture has not been visible to larger world, and the nuanced and better-informed reading of Tamil history and society as seen through their eyes could be highlighted in my book."

"Through *The Tamils*, I hope to convey my personal insights to what I have learned about Tamil culture, history and literature to an audience of not just Tamil people, but also to non-Tamil speaking people everywhere," she further added.

Connection to roots

The discussion, moderated by Ranvir Shah, founder of Prakriti Foundation, and introduced by Ramachandra Guha, writer and historian, delved into multiple aspects that have shaped the Tamil identity.

"The Tamil diaspora is as strong in Tamil as people in Tamil Nadu are. In places like Malaysia, there is a thirst to know more about one's roots," said Ms. Lakshman, who further added that the research for the book was a journey of discovery for her too.

According to her, Tamils, as with many other communities, are a complex demographic and carry with them a weight of history that goes back several millennia. Pointing out that there are about 90 million people across the world who identify themselves as Tamil, she recollected how, when she visited places like Malaysia, the diaspora there expressed a strong desire to know more about their roots, despite having migrated at least three generations ago.

The essence

"In this book, I tried to find that Tamil essence as I weave through history and story, talking to a wide spectrum of people. So that in that sense it's an anecdotal and personal journey," Ms. Lakshman remarked while further adding that today, a Tamil in Tamil Nadu is no more a Tamil than a Tamil in Malaysia or Sri Lanka or Canada.

Global Innovation Hub launched at BACL's Business Park

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A representational image of the Business Park of Bengaluru Airport City Limited.

The State government, Bengaluru Airport City Limited (BACL), and ANSR have jointly announced the launch of a Global Innovation Hub, District I within the Business Park of BACL.

The Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) said that District I will serve as a central platform to accelerate deep-tech entrepreneurship, enterprise-driven innovation, and the commercialisation of academic research.

BIAL hopes that by bringing together Global Capability Centers (GCCs), IT service providers, accelerators, corporate labs, startups, VCs, academia, and public institutions will foster an interconnected, collaborative ecosystem across industries and institutions.

With a focus on advanced technologies, such as AI, quantum computing, blockchain, and customer experience technologies, this hub will foster innovation in critical industries, including aerospace, space tech, smart cities, retail, BFSI, manufacturing, telecom, and defence – sectors where Bengaluru already leads with deep technological capabilities.

District I will be an integral part of Bengaluru Airport City's expansive 28 million sq. ft. Business Park cluster, which is being projected as a world-class, mixed-use urban destination encompassing cutting-edge R&D hubs, a dedicated Education & Health District, a vibrant mix of hospitality, entertainment, and lifestyle offerings. "Bengaluru has always led from the front in India's tech journey. With the Global Innovation Hub, we are creating a platform that brings together every part of the ecosystem to collaborate, innovate, and lead globally. This is a key step toward making Bengaluru the world's next great innovation capital," said Ekroop Caur, secretary, Department of Electronics, IT, BT, and S&T, Government of Karnataka.

"We are proud to introduce District I, a dynamic hub created to inspire and empower the next generation of innovators. More than just a physical space, District I captures the ethos of work, play, live, learn, and create, offering startups and enterprises a vibrant ecosystem backed by world-class infrastructure. District I is central to our long-term vision of building a future-ready, innovation- led economy - one where ideas spark, collaborations thrive, and entrepreneurs drive meaningful change," said Rao Munukutla, Executive Director & CEO, BACL.

CCB tracks down 11 foreign nationals overstaying in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officials of the Anti-Narcotics Wing of the Central Crime Branch on Monday conducted a drive and tracked down 11 foreign nationals who were overstaying in the city and were on the run.

Five deported

Five among the detained have been deported to their respective countries, while the others who are involved in different cases are undergoing verification, City Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh, said .

'No travel documents'

According to him, the accused do not have travel documents and were staying in and around east division and were allegedly involved in illegal activities.

"These foreigners come on tourist, visiting, and student visas and go off the radar after the expiry of the visa term. Some of them, who were admitted to private colleges, did not attend classes for months, and it was the duty of the college concerned to alert the police. Even the jurisdictional police and the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) officials failed to monitor the foreign nationals on a regular basis," a police officer who is part of the drive, said.

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Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Development & Procurement Corporation Limited, a company under the administrative control of Department of Health, Medical Education & Family Welfare, Govt. of Jharkhand, is engaged to unify the procurement of drugs, equipments, construction and development of infrastructure facilities, to take/grant on lease or otherwise health centres and other necessary logistics in order to maintain high quality, reduced costs, improve efficiency of supply and delivery to the Government Health Institutions etc in the State. The corporation also executes various directions issued by the Department of Health, Medical Education & Family Welfare, Government of Jharkhand from time to time to ensure achievement of various health related activities in a time bound manner.

Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Development & Procurement Corporation Limited is looking for appointment of energetic and hard working candidate, on contract basis, who are suitable for the posts at different levels and can provide results within prescribed time and agrees to abide by the rules and regulation as framed by Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Development & Procurement Corporation Limited for its employees from time to time.

The details of the vacancies are described below:-

S. No.	Name of Post	Number of Post	Remuneration (consolidated)	Qualification & Eligibility Criteria	Age
1	General Manager (Procurement)	1 (UR)	**For Contractual Recruitment** Grade Pay Rs. 6600 /- (Consolidated of Rs. **1,06,500/-** as per Finance Department, GoJ Circular No. 33 / वि0 (संविदा) – 01 / 2009 – 2248 / वि0, दिनांक – 27.09.2024)	**Minimum Qualification:** Applicant must have MBA / CA / MBBS / M.Pharma / PG Degree in Operations / Production / Project Management / Supply Chain / Inventory / Material Management / Graduate in Mechanical / EE / Production / Operations / Biomedical / Chemical / Bio-engineering / Process / Clinical Engineering regular Course. **Minimum Experience -** Minimum 12 year experience in procurement of Medicine/kits/Medical equipments etc. and well versed in Drugs & Cosmetics Act 1940, Contract Law etc. Working in Govt. Sector will be preferred.	Maximum upto 50 yrs.
2	General Manager (HR & Admin.)	1 (UR)	**For Contractual Recruitment** Grade Pay Rs. 6600 /- (Consolidated of Rs. **1,06,500/-** as per Finance Department, GoJ Circular No. 33 / वि0 (संविदा) – 01 / 2009 – 2248 / वि0, दिनांक – 27.09.2024)	**Minimum Qualification:** Applicant must have MBA HR regular Course. **Minimum Experience -** Minimum 12 years experience in HR & Admin. Working in Govt. Sector will be preferred.	Maximum upto 50 yrs.

Terms of Engagement:

1. Contractual employment will be made for a period of 3 years from the date of appointment. The contract would be expandable on yearly basis for a further period of 2 years on the basis of satisfactory performance. However, contract may be terminated on the basis of unsatisfactory service without any notice.
2. Last date for receiving the application is 02.07.2025 till 5:00 pm (On all working days from 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM except holidays). Application received after last date/time will be refused/rejected.
3. The successful candidate will be required to execute contractual agreement along with service bond and their Services will be guided by the service rules of the Corporation.
4. The requisite qualification and experience and the application format is available on the website - **https://jmhidpcl.jharkhand.gov.in**
5. Candidates are required to write "The name of the Post" applied for on the top of envelop in block letters.
6. How to apply: Duly filled in application form in prescribed format along with the self attested copies of proof of age, qualification and experience should be sent through registered post/speed post to the "Managing Director, Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Development & Procurement Corporation Limited".
7. The list of shortlisted candidates for interview/Exam will be uploaded on the website- https://jmhidpcl.jharkhand.gov.in
8. The shortlisted candidate would be called for personal interview/Exam in Ranchi on the date and time communicated to them through email/sms/website only. The candidate will have to appear for written test/interview at their own cost, even at short notice.
9. Leave-The selected candidates will get maximum 14 days leave during a calendar year.
10. The Company reserves the right to cancel/postpone the recruitment process, wholly or partly, if so required. No claim will be admissible in case of such cancellation/postponement.
11. Canvassing in any form for selection will result in cancellation of the candidature of the applicants.
12. Incase the selected Candidate wish to leave job during the contract period she/he has to give one month prior notice or forego one month salary.
13. Incase any dispute which may arise out of this recruitment process the decision of competent authority will be final and binding to all candidates.

Sd/-
Managing Director
JMHIDPCL

PR 355290 Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Dev & Procurement Corp Ltd (25-26)_D

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (June 18, Wednesday), the following articles are available:

- What is Netanyahu's endgame in Iran? **newsth.live/iranisraelexp**
- Rice reveals surprise ability to adapt to cold faster than evolution **newsth.live/riceadaptation**

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CHANGE OF NAME
I, KUNDAN Kishor Ramani S/o Kishor Valji Ramani, R/at No. 3, Sy No.79/1, Opp. Sun Shine School, Kalkere Main Road, Jayanthi Nagar, Horamavu, Bengaluru-560043, have changed my name from Kundan to Kundan Kishor Ramani vide affidavit dated 17-06-2025 sworn before Notary Uday Kumar.K, Bengaluru.

I, RAMESWAR Baro, R/o Village- Warpara, Post Office- Bhakatpara, Tehsil-Shyamabari, District- Darrang, State-Assam, Pin-784190, have changed my minor daughter's name from Jesmi Baro to Jasmine Baro vide affidavit dt: 16.10.2024 sworn before Notary Regn No - 073/06 Gurdip Singh Dua, New Delhi.

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE LXVII ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSION JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-68)
Original Suit No. 6816/ 2022
Hg date : 01/08/2025

BETWEEN:
ICICI Bank Ltd,
A body corporate incorporated and registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 and licensed As a Bank under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 having Registered Office at:
"Landmark", Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007 and having its Regional office at ICICI Bank Ltd., 11th Floor, C-Wing, Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560 001
And Represented by its POA Holder, Mr. M Rohit Ali S/o Ishrath Ali M, Aged about 25 years, ...Plaintiff
AND
Mr. Gireesha
S/o Chikkachari,
Aged about 47 years,
R/a No. 234/A, 1st Floor, Bhavan Nilaya, 4th Cross, K K Road, Near Post Office, Bengaluru-560 057
...Defendant

Summons/Notice through Paper Publication

Mr. Gireesha
S/o Chikkachari,
Aged about 47 years,
R/a No. 234/A, 1st Floor, Bhavan Nilaya, 4th Cross, K K Road, Near Post Office, Bengaluru-560 057
...Defendant

WHEREAS the above named Plaintiff has instituted case against you for recovery loan amount Rs. 7,30,918/ (Rupees Seven Lakh Thirty Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighteen Only) together with interest at the rate 18% p.a. from date of due to till the date of realization.
You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble City Civil & Session Judge Court (CCH-65), At Bengaluru, in person or by a Advocate/ Pleader on 01/08/2025 at 11.00 A.M to answer the questions of the same. Failing which the matter will be heard and determined as "EX-PARTE".
Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this out 4th day of June 2025.
By the order of the Court
Senior Sheristedar
City Civil Court,
Bengaluru

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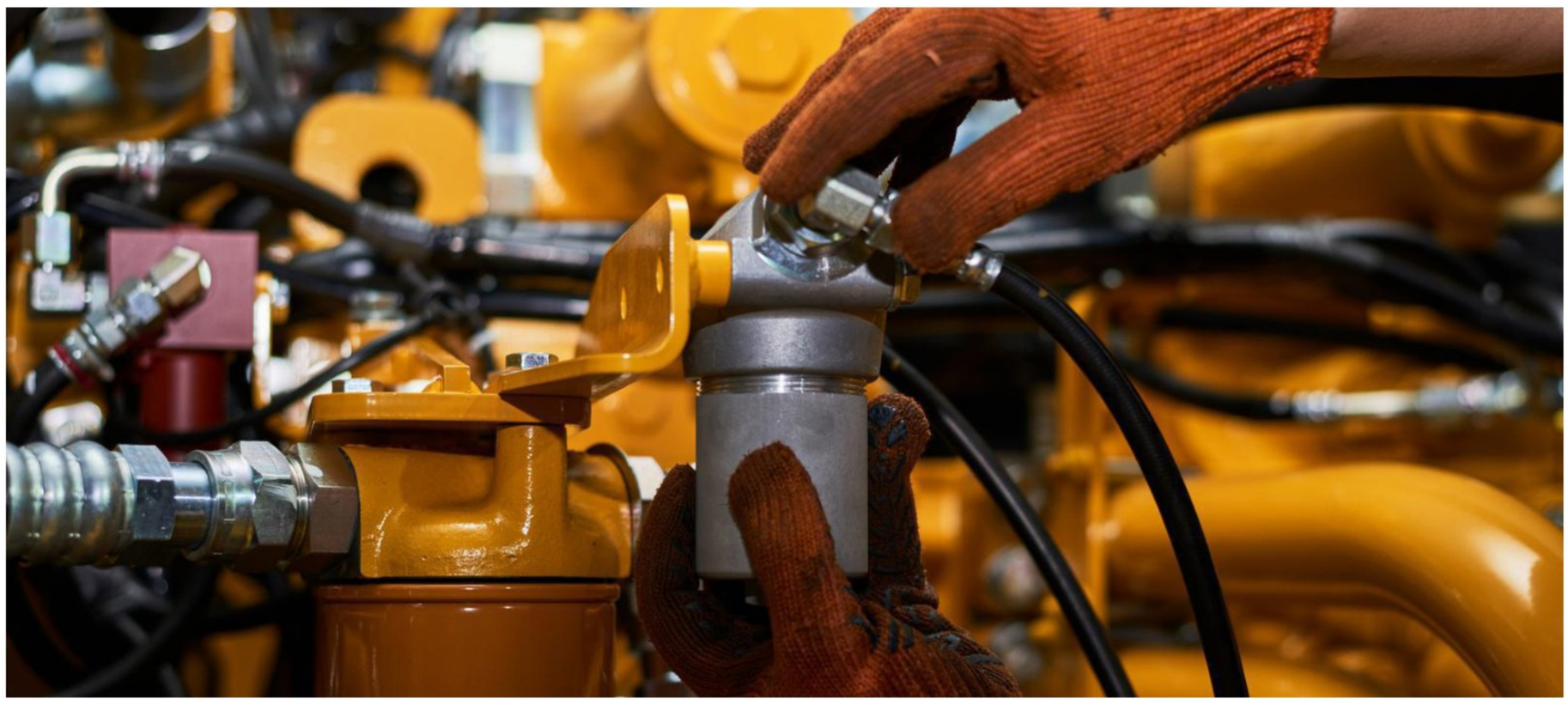
ISSN 0971 - 751X

BUILDING BLOCKS



ISTOCKPHOTO

Hydraulic systems: their functioning and myriad applications

In a hydraulic system, pressure is created by applying a force to a fluid. And because it is subsequently transmitted equally in all directions, a small force applied over a small area can create a much larger force over a larger area

R. Vasudevan

Ever observed cranes lifting heavy loads, excavators digging and scooping earth or the extension and retraction of landing gears in an aircraft? They all have one thing in common: they are driven by hydraulics. In all of them, the input power, from a combustion engine or an electric source, is converted into flexible mechanical power. The apparatus that achieves this conversion is the hydraulics.

A hydraulics system is based on the simple principle of Pascal's law, named for the 17th century French scientist Blaise Pascal. The law states that when pressure is applied to an incompressible fluid, it is transmitted equally in all directions throughout the fluid. Pressure here is simply the amount of force per unit area.

In a hydraulic system, pressure is created by applying a force to a fluid. And because it is subsequently transmitted equally in all directions, a small force applied over a small area can create a much larger force over a larger area. The illustration (inset) shows how.

A small force applied at one end can be used to generate a much larger force at the other end just by having a larger area of contact. There's no need to change the pressure. This is perhaps the simplest use of hydraulics. There are many more actions that a hydraulic system can perform than just lifting.

Hydraulics have many advantages over mechanical methods of transmitting energy. The principal ones are smooth movements, high power to weight ratio, better heat dissipation, smooth controls, and higher precision.

What are the parts of a hydraulic system?

There are six general components in every hydraulic system.

(i) Pumps: to convert the input mechanical energy into pressure and generate a flow

(ii) Pipes: to carry the oil to the end points of the application and return to the tank

(iii) Valves: to control the flow and direction of the pressurised oil

(iv) Linear actuators or rotary actuators: to deliver the work at the output end

(v) Tank (with filters): to hold the hydraulic oil

(vi) Sensors or switches: whenever needed from an operational or safety perspective.

Of these, the defining components are the pumps, valves, and the actuators (plus the sensors/switches wherever required). The tanks, filters, and pipes are only to hold and convey the elements and play no dynamic role.

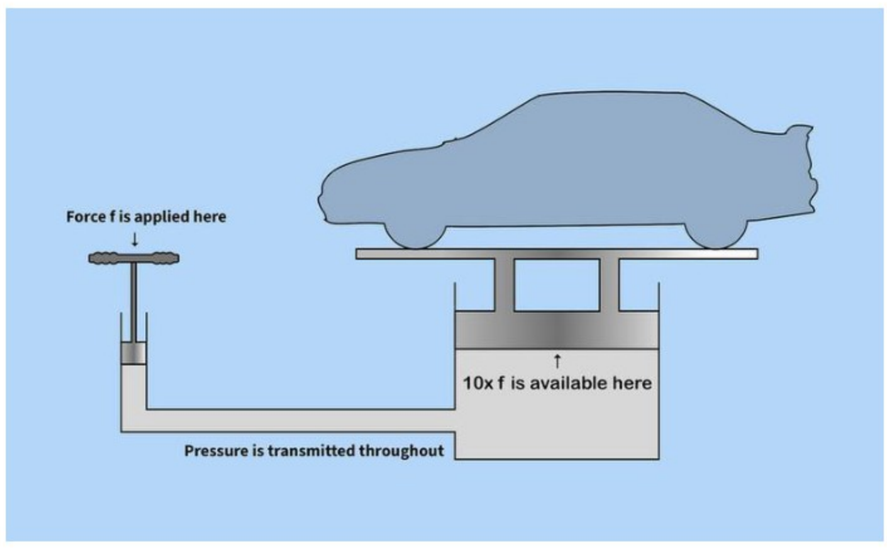
Larger systems may also have a way to cool the oil, since it heats up during continuous operation. Likewise, in very cold environments, a heater is also added to the circuit to warm up the oil before starting so that the oil is sufficiently less viscous.

There are different types of pumps, including gear type, axial piston type, variable delivery type, and so on. The type of pump used is based on the pressure and flow rate the application needs. Pumps can be driven by electrical motors or by coupling with a combustion engine (called a power take-off unit).

Valves are classified broadly based on their actions on the oil: flow control, direction control, and pressure control. In very basic systems, valves can be operated manually; in others, they are controlled electrically.

Actuators, the last major element in the circuit, deliver the actual output at the application endpoint. The most common one in use is the linear actuator, also known as hydraulic cylinder. In this set up, a cylindrical chamber has a rod sliding in and out. These rods are visually bright due to the chrome plating over them and are clearly visible on earth-moving equipment or a crane in action. The pressure of the oil fed in determines how much force or power the rod can deliver. The flow rate of the oil determines how fast or slow the rod moves. And the direction of the oil's flow determines which way the rod moves.

In a rotary actuator (also known as a hydraulic motor) the output is rotating rather than linear. The rotary motion can be used to drive applications, for example, a winch wheel. The flow rate, pressure and direction of oil flow determine the speed of rotation, torque, and direction of rotation of the output shaft, respectively.



What are applications of hydraulics?

Hydraulics have a broad base of applications today, from agriculture to waste management, from automation to wind turbines. They can be used for both mobile equipment – cranes, excavators, etc. which move on wheels or tracks – and static applications such as a hydraulic press, moulding machines, windmills, etc. wherein the main equipment is static. Worldwide, hydraulics constitute a $45-50 billion market and is growing steadily.

With rapid developments in electronics and electrification today, hydraulic systems are also changing to take advantage. They are equipped with sensors to track movement, temperature, pressure, flow, oil contamination, etc. While many of the changes are focused on improving safety, some of the data collected is also often used to improve the system's performance and to carry out predictive maintenance.

They have room for improvement as well. For example, hydraulic systems have an overall energy efficiency (from engine output to usage endpoint) of 30-40%. Engineers and scientists are doing a lot of work to improve this figure while keeping in mind environmental regulations and needs. But even as these actions continue, there is no system to beat the prevailing advantages of hydraulics. There have been attempts to use electrical setups in place of hydraulics but they have been limited to smaller systems. Hydraulics still triumphs as the size of operations and complexities go up.

R. Vasudevan has over two decades' experience in the manufacture and sale of hydraulic components.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Here is a quiz on events that happened on June 18

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

This experimental submersible imploded during a dive to the wreck of the Titanic on this day; all five people on board were killed. What is the name of the submersible?

QUESTION 2

This person was elected presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America, becoming the first woman chosen as a churchwide leader in the 400-year history of the Anglican Communion. Name her.

QUESTION 3

The first American woman to fly into outer space was launched with four other astronauts aboard the space shuttle Challenger. Name her.

QUESTION 4

This treaty was signed by U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. This treaty was aimed at curtailing the manufacture of strategic missiles capable of carrying nuclear weapons. What was it called?

QUESTION 5

This British explorer and mountaineer whose disappearance on Mount Everest in 1924 became one of the most-celebrated mysteries of the 20th century was born on this day. Who was he?

QUESTION 6

This suffragist was fined after being convicted for voting in the 1872 presidential election, though she refused to pay it; in 2020 President Donald Trump pardoned her but the move was criticised by those who argued that it validated the trial. Who was she?

Visual question:

Identify this musician who was born on this day in 1942. Which band did he play for? AP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:

1. This player scored the most runs in the WTC Cycle of 2023-25. **Ans: Joe Root**
2. The only player to score a triple hundred during this cycle. **Ans: Harry Brook of England**
3. This player took the most number of wickets in the WTC Cycle of 2023-25. **Ans: Pat Cummins of Australia**
4. The only bowler to have taken 10+ wickets in a Test match twice in this cycle. **Ans: Noman Ali of Pakistan**
5. This bowler had to face the ignominy of conceding more than 150 runs in an innings thrice during this cycle. **Ans: Prabhat Jayasuriya of Sri Lanka**
6. This wicket keeper holds the distinction of having effected most dismissals during the cycle. **Ans: Alex Carey of Australia**
7. These two Indian cricketers shared the highest partnership of 199 runs for the seventh wicket during this cycle. **Ans: R. Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja**
8. After 52 years, a rare occurrence happened in the second test at Multan where these two bowlers picked up all 20 opposition wickets. **Ans: Sajid Khan and Noman Ali**

Visual: Name this player. **Ans: Gus Atkinson of England**

Early Birds: Tito Shiladitya| Erfanally Oosmany| Tamal Biswas| Pranab Biswas| Dodo Jayaditya

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know Your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"Why are you watching this movie again? I thought you didn't like it."

"I don't like it. I'm killing time till the match begins."

"Killing time? It's not possible for anyone to kill time, is it? I mean..."

"...'kill time' is an informal expression and it means 'to waste time'."

"For example, many people do crossword puzzles just to kill time."

"My grandfather kills time by rereading some very old magazines."

"Many students kill time at the shop."

"How do you kill time at work?"

"I don't get a chance to waste time. Every one hour my boss comes out of his office and shouts, 'Stop killing time and get to work'."

"He sounds like my mother. Anyway, did you watch the final between South Africa and India?"

"Wouldn't have missed it for the world. I was on cloud nine when we won."

"Cloud nine! I suppose it means, you were very happy."

"That's right. 'Cloud nine' is an informal expression and it means 'very happy'. For example, I was on cloud nine when I got my first job."

"My parents will be on cloud nine if and when I score a hundred in Physics."

"I think you would be too."

"I don't know. I know that I would be on cloud nine if I managed to meet Madhuri."

"Which Madhuri are you talking about?"

"Which Madhuri? There's only one Madhuri as far as I'm concerned. Madhuri Dixit of course!"

"Oh, her! Keep dreaming. As for me, I would be on cloud nine if I won the lottery or something."

"Money! That's all you are interested in. Beauty doesn't...."

"...most people I know are interested in money."

"Most people! Shouldn't you say 'most of the people I know'?"

"Both are correct. You can either say, 'Most of the people like Sachin Tendulkar', or 'Most people like Sachin Tendulkar'."

"I see, what about 'all'? Is it ok to say, 'All students came to class' and 'All of the students came to class'?"

"Yes it is. Once again, both are acceptable."

"Many people I know smoke."

"Many of the people I know don't smoke."

"You're lucky. While we are on the subject of smoking, did you get a letter from Ravi?"

"Yes, I did. He will make a very good politician."

"What makes you say that?"

"Because everything he said in that letter was as clear as mud."

"You thought it was clear! I didn't understand anything."

"I didn't say it was clear. I said it was 'clear as mud'. And the expression 'clear as mud' means 'not understandable'. For example, the explanation that the chairman of our company gave last week was as clear as mud."

"Meaning it wasn't clear at all?"

"That's right."

Published in The Hindu on December 3, 1996

Word of the day

Impute:
attribute or credit to

Synonyms: ascribe, assign

Usage: *The teacher imputed the student's failure to his nervousness.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/imputepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ɪmˈpjuːt/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

13 cryptocurrency wallets seized from accused in extortion case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Continuing investigation into the extortion racket allegedly run in nexus by a senior officer with the prime accused Ningappa Sawanth, the Lokayukta officials on Tuesday searched the house of Ningappa, a dismissed head constable, and reportedly found that he had invested the extortion money in cryptocurrency.

The officials seized 13 cryptocurrency wallets from him. Investigators reportedly found that he had invested the extortion money in his name and in the name of his relatives and some police officials.

The seizure was made after a series of search operations and analysis of the mobile phones seized from his house.

Ningappa, according of Lokayukta officials, confessed that he was running the extortion racket for the last six months targeting excise officials.

Investigations are on to ascertain how much each official had paid him, they said.

BWSSB enters Guinness Book

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has set a Guinness World Record for the most pledges received for a water conservation campaign in a week.

Campaign
BWSSB had launched a water conservation campaign in March during the summer. The campaign was kicked off with a Cauvery Aarti at Sankey Tank on March 21. In the following week, the board received over 5.33 lakh pledges from citizens to conserve water.

This is the highest number of pledges in a week for a water conservation project in the world and has been recognised by the Guinness World Records, sources said.

The Guinness World Record Official Certificate acknowledging this will be handed over to Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Wednesday.

District panels to oversee scientific disposal of plastic water bottles

The committees, headed by the DC, will create awareness among people about the ill-effects of plastic waste

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An order has been issued empowering the Deputy Commissioners (DC) of each district in the State to chair a committee which will oversee the management and scientific disposal of plastic water bottles.

The Government Order was officially unveiled at the World Environment Day programme on Tuesday by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Each committee, headed by the DC, comprises the Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Panchayat, District Superintendent of Police, Deputy Director of the Food and Civil Supplies Department, and Pollution Control Board officers.

These committees will monitor waste management by giving special attention to the scientific disposal of water bottles and compile data on the quantity of PET bottles produced, used and sold within the district. These committees, which will meet and review once in three months, will work to create awareness among the people about the ill effects of plastic waste.

On March 21, Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre had instructed the Additional Chief Secretary to issue an order to scientifically dispose of plastic bottles under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) by mineral water manufacturing companies.

Chief Minister Siddaramiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre at World Environment Day celebrations at the Palace Grounds in Bengaluru on Tuesday.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Concrete around trees
In a separate order, which was released on the occasion, instructions have been given to remove concrete within a one-meter radius around trees planted by local bodies along roadsides.

As per the NGT order, there should be a one-meter circumference of soil around the trees. The Chief Minister said that it is very important to make environmental conservation a curriculum in higher education and said that the government will take steps towards implementing this soon.

First electric safari bus
"If we destroy nature out of greed, it is like destroying ourselves. In Karnataka, we must protect the Western Ghats, diverse forests, rivers, and biodiversity," he said. Mr. Khandre will flag off the trial run of the country's first electric safari bus at the Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) on Wednesday.

Currently, diesel vehicles are used for wildlife safaris. In order to reduce carbon emissions from diesel vehicles, an electric vehicle is being introduced for the first time.

BBMP ready to fund forest land development

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will provide funds to the Forest Department if it comes forward to develop forest land in Bengaluru on the lines of Cubbon Park and Lalbagh, said Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday. Speaking at the World Environment Day organised at the Palace Grounds, he said, "If the Forest Department develops its land parcels as parks on the lines of Cubbon Park and Lalbagh, it would benefit the public and it will also save forest lands from encroachment."

3,000 people expected to participate in mass yoga session at Vidhana Soudha

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To mark International Yoga Day, celebrated on June 21, over 3,000 people, including yoga experts, are expected to participate in a synchronised mass yoga demonstration session in front of the Vidhana Soudha from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. on Saturday.

This session will be in line with the Union AYUSH Ministry's 'Yoga Sangama' initiative, under which synchronised mass yoga sessions are planned at over one lakh locations across India on June 21.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, apart from several film actors, will participate in the Vidhana Soudha event.

Addressing pressperson after releasing Yoga Day posters on Tuesday, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said all participants would follow the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP). "This year's theme 'Yoga for one earth, one health' highlights yoga's role in promoting physical, mental, and environmental well-being, aligning with global calls for sustainability and unity," he said. The promotional programmes include 'Yoga Dhanush', 'Yoga Unplugged', 'Green Yoga', 'Yogadhyana', and 'Yoga Sangama'. While 'Yoga Dhanush' and 'Yoga Unplugged' are being conducted across the State, the remaining programmes will be rolled out in due course at the district level, Mr. Gundu Rao said.

About 5,000 people are expected to participate in separate yoga demonstration sessions to be held in every district as part of the Yoga Day events. Seminars on yoga and its benefits on health will be held in the University of Mysore, NIMHANS, Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, and Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences in the last week of June. That apart, awareness jathas and human chains will also be organised as part of the Yoga Day events, the Minister said.

Declare 'Yoga district'
The State has sent a proposal to the Centre urging that Mysuru district be declared as 'Yoga district'. Under this, at least one member of each household in this district will learn and practice yoga.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 18				
RISE	05:54	SET	18:47	
RISE	00:00	SET	11:53	
THURSDAY, JUN. 19				
RISE	05:54	SET	18:48	
RISE	00:22	SET	12:46	
FRIDAY, JUN. 20				
RISE	05:55	SET	18:48	
RISE	01:02	SET	13:41	

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	28	20
Bengaluru	28	21

Bengaluru Today
29ºC The weather will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30ºC Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Mosty dry weather to prevail.

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THE HINDU
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Incessant rains, landslips along ghat sections disrupt traffic

Landslip at Doddathappale, near Sakleshpur, affects vehicular movement on NH 75, connecting Bengaluru and Mangaluru

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA/MYSURU

Incessant downpour in the Malnad region threw life out of gear, triggering landslips and disrupting the movement of traffic on major roads.

The landslip in Doddathappale, near Sakleshpur, affected vehicle movement on the NH-75, connecting Bengaluru and Mangaluru, on Monday night.

Many vehicles were stranded between Sakleshpur and Shiradi Ghat as the road was filled with debris.

Police personnel and officials of the National Highways Authority of India cleared the debris and the traffic was restored on Tuesday morning. However, the road between Sakleshpur and Gundia, including Shiradi Ghat stretch, was vulnerable to landslips, and travellers faced difficulty crossing the stretch during the rain.

Damaged: A car was crushed after a tree fell on it at Kallthagiri, near Lingadahalli, in Tarikere taluk following heavy rains on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The movement of vehicles on Agumbe ghat, which connects Shivamogga with Udupi district, was disrupted after a tree fell on the first curve. Vehicles were stuck in the traffic for hours, before the road was cleared. Similarly, travellers on Hulikal ghat that connects Hosanagar with Udupi district had difficulty after a truck developed a glitch and was stuck at a deep curve on Monday night. The movement of vehicles was restored the next morning.

Many parts of the Malnad region received moderate to heavy rain on Tuesday. The rain gauge at Sulagodu in Hosanagara recorded 132 mm of rainfall in the 24-hour ending 8.30 a.m. on Tuesday. This is the highest in Shivamogga district.

In Hassan district, parts of Sakleshpur taluk recorded heavy rains. Hanbal hobli received 77.9 mm of rainfall and Hettur hobli recorded 88.6 mm. Chikkamagaluru district received an average of 27.5 mm of rainfall against the normal 14.7 mm. Sringeri taluk recorded the highest rainfall of 74.3 mm.

In Kodagu

Meanwhile, in Kodagu, flooding in the river Cauvery triggered by heavy rains has cut off the Holakere Road in Karadigodu village in Ammathi hobli, disrupting access to the village.

The Revenue Department officials have issued an advisory urging residents not to venture into flood-prone areas. People living in the affected areas have been asked to relocate to nearby relief centres.

Potholes come back with a vengeance

Keerthivas S.
BENGALURU

As monsoon rains began to lash Bengaluru, potholes and bad stretches of roads have resurfaced with a vengeance. Social media is abuzz with several commuters pointing out bad stretches, drawing the attention of civic authorities. Not only are internal bylanes bad, the condition of key arterial roads, like Kanakapura Road, has also worsened.

For instance, a 3.5-km stretch from Doddakallasandra to Gubbalala has become unmotorable. Television actor Aniruddha Jatkar recently took to social media to draw the attention of Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D. K. Shivakumar to the 'unmotorable' bad stretch.

Same is the condition of several other roads across Bengaluru. Many accidents due to potholes and bad stretches go unreported, rue commuters.

For instance, on May 22, a resident of Thubarahalli met with an accident in one of the bad stretches. His leg had to be amputated as he was run over by a water tanker, residents point out.

Commuters and residents are also complaining that despite flagging potholes, they remain unattended for months on end, and even when addressed, civic officials are only using a wet mix, putting mud and jelly stones. The potholes reappear with just one spell of rain.

During a reality check by *The Hindu*, commuters pointed out that a 4-km stretch between Varthur Kodi and Gunjur, road connecting Ashok Nagar and Residency Road, BSNL Road in Jayanagar, have been full of potholes for several months now. There has been no improvement despite complaints.

Muniraju, a commuter who passes by Ashok Nagar every day, said that the road near Garuda Mall is dotted with several potholes, making daily commute a hassle.

Pramod L., a resident of Jayanagar, said that BSNL Road and several other roads in Jayanagar 5th Block had turned into bad stretches. "Several of these potholes have been left unrepaired over the past months. Commuting is dangerous, especially when it rains," he said.

A pothole at Chickpet.
SUDHAKARA JAIN

BBMP speeds up work

Recently, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Administrator Tushar Giri Nath held a review meeting in which he directed officials to speed up work on filling potholes.

M. Lokesh, Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure), BBMP, told *The Hindu* that as per present data, they had identified 647 potholes of which they had filled 313, and work on the rest was under way.

Filling not enough

Citizens have pointed out that filling potholes is not enough. What was needed was interventions to ensure the roads are not waterlogged with every rain.

The lack of a proper drainage system and failure to desilt existing drains has led to water overflowing onto roads, eventually causing potholes, argued Jagadish Reddy, of Varthur Rising.

"The disruption of the drain network and overflowing drains have led to flooded roads making pothole menace on the roads severe during monsoon," said Srivastava, Secretary, Changemakers of Kanakapura Road.

As per the last update by the civic body, they were yet to sort out waterlogging on at least 82 road stretches flagged by the Bengaluru Traffic Police.

Smart meters: HC notice to State govt.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday ordered issue of notice to the State government and others in three PIL petitions, which have questioned the legality of the decisions of the authorities to make installation of electricity smart meters mandatory for all electricity consumers and acceptance of bid of a particular company to supply smart meters at an exorbitant price.

A division bench comprising acting Chief Justice V. Kameswar Rao and Justice C.M. Joshi passed the order on the separate petitions filed by Karnataka Vidyuth Sene, Bengaluru, Ramachandra R. Anaveri, a journalist, and Jayapala N. and Muniswamy Gowda of Bengaluru.

What Bescom said

During the hearing, advocate of Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company Ltd (Bescom) said that it has been made mandatory only for the installation of new meters or for temporary connections, and not for all electricity consumers.

However, advocate of one of the petitioners have contended that the scheme of smart meters were prepared in such a way that it becomes mandatory even for existing customers when they upgrade their connections to a higher level or even renovate their houses and re-install the meters, and other scenarios. The decision regarding electricity installations, other than temporary connections, is contrary to the recommendations of the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC), it was argued on behalf of the petitioners.

The bench also ordered the issue of notice to KERC and Rajashree Electricals Pvt. Ltd., Davangere. Further hearing has been adjourned till August 19.

Tough life for delivery agents as they continue to brave monsoon without safety gear

Sophia Mary Mathew
Sagnik Maitra
BENGALURU

Raghunath, a delivery agent working with a popular quick commerce platform, manoeuvred his two-wheeler through the waterlogged streets of Vasanthnagar at 8 p.m. on a busy weekday this week, balancing speed and care as he tried to keep a bag containing two mangoes dry. "It gets very difficult for us. When it rains like this, the roads get worse, and it takes more time to reach," he explained.

Bengaluru's food and grocery delivery network has seen immense growth over the past decade, with companies promising delivery in under ten minutes.

But amid this race for speed, the safety and working conditions of delivery agents, especially during the monsoon, are often overlooked.

Despite being an essential part of Bengaluru's daily convenience, delivery agents say that their voices often go unheard, particularly when it comes to safety and fair working conditions. K. MURALI KUMAR

The risks

"Some years ago, the State government had said that private vehicles should not be used for delivery services," said D. Raju, national president of the Delivery Boys Welfare Association (DWBA), Bengaluru.

"But many companies have ignored this. Most agents still use personal scooters or rent electric vehicles like Yulu, which are unsafe, especially on flooded roads," he said. Raju added that electric bikes lack basic safety equipment like helmets and are not designed for heavy rain or night-time travel. "The safety of night-shift workers is at constant risk," he said.

Thousif Ahmed, another quick delivery agent, said that potholes and mud-slicked roads during the monsoon season make riding extremely difficult.

"My bike almost skidded off the road several times. Still, customers keep calling, asking why the delivery is late. Only a few understand what we go through," he said.

Frequent illness

Beyond traffic and vehicle concerns, many agents also struggle with frequent illness during the rainy season due to long hours in wet clothes. Rising petrol prices cut deep into their already limited earnings, especially for those using their own vehicles.

"Sometimes we have to choose between filling petrol and buying food for ourselves," said one agent.

There's also a lack of access to rest stops or clean drinking water during long shifts, adding further strain to an already tough job, the delivery agent explained.

Despite being an essential part of Bengaluru's daily convenience, delivery agents said that their voices often go unheard, particularly when it comes to safety and fair working conditions.

When contacted, major delivery platforms like Swiggy and Zomato did not respond to queries about safety measures or vehicle policies for their delivery partners.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Auction Notification
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites bidders, fulfilling the requisite eligibility criteria as stipulated in the afore mentioned auction catalogue, to participate in the e-Auction for the under mentioned service.
Name of the work with its location
The award of contract for the Parking at Bagalkot Railway Station (BGK) for the period of Three (3) years. **(E-Auction Catalogue No.: PARK-MIX-BGK-25 dated 10.06.2025)**
E-Auction on 26.06.2025 at 11:30 Hrs.
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in (E-Auction Portal)
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Hubballi
PUB/200/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public that my clients **Mr.N.M.MUDDAPPA** has intends to purchase the immovable property described in the Schedule hereunder from its owners **Mrs. Sarala.R** Any person/s, financial institutions etc having any claims /right/interest in respect of the Scheduled Property may file their objections with the undermentioned with documentary evidence within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claims are received within the stipulated period it will be presumed that there is no claim in respect of the Scheduled Property and my clients will be proceeding to purchase the same.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of agricultural land bearing **Survey No.29/10, (old Sy.no.29/5),** measuring 13 Guntas out of 16.12 guntas, situated at Nellukunte Village, Hesargatta 2 Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, Bangalore and is bounded on the: -
East by : Basavarajappa's Land; West by : Channabasavarajappa's land, North by : Kempamma's Land & South by : Shivanna & Channabasavarajappa' land;
Lakshmi Law Associates
Advocates and Consultants
Having office at No.28, 12th Cross, Vinayaka Layout, Manorayana Palya, R.T.Nagar, Bangalore-560 032.
Phone No : 78298 29935

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Salem Division
Office of the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, Electric Loco Shed, Erode
E-TENDER NOTICE
Online tender are invited for the following work:
Tender No: SA_A_RS_ED_OT_25_26_4, Dated: 14-06-2025
Description of Work: Work Contract for overhauling of RR20100 model ELGI make 1750 LPM reciprocating compressors available in electric locomotives at Electric Loco Shed,Southern Railway, Salem Division, Erode.
All details regarding the tender are available at **https://www.ireps.gov.in**
DEE / RS / ED
For Sr. DEE / RS / ED.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)
Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58. Ph: 080-28094182/ 4541, Fax: 080-28094180
CORRIGENDUM-I DT: 17.06.2025
On behalf of President of India, **item rate E-tender** is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for following works.

NIT No.	**ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-Tender-26/ 2025-26 dated: 29.05.2025**
Name of work	**Electrical works for the renovation of common area lighting, lift room lighting circuits at 1C Block, 2C Block, 3C Block and B-Block at ISRO Housing Colony, RPC Layout & Anthariksh Apartment, Malleshwaram, ISTRAC, Bengaluru.**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 14.84 Lakhs**
Tender Document details	**E-Tender**
Period of Completion	**Two (02) month**
Period during which tender documents can be downloaded	From 16.00 hrs. on 30.05.2025 to 12.06.2025 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 25.06.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Bid clarifications	From 11.00 hrs. on 31.05.2025 to 13.06.2025 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 26.06.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Last date of reply to Bid clarification	14.06.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 27.06.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Last date & time for receipt of tenders	15.06.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 28.06.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs.**
Due date & time of opening of tenders	17.06.2025 after 11.00 hrs. **Extended up to 30.06.2025 after 11.00 Hrs.**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 29,680.00**

Interested tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender** (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**
Sd/- Group Head-CMG

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore
ARM-1 Branch,
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bengaluru-560001
Ph:080-25310066, E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com
SALE NOTICE
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank**, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** on **05.07.2025 (10.00 AM to 10.30 AM),** for recovery of **Rs. 72,48,87,079.31 as on 16.06.2025 (Rupees Seventy Two Crore Forty Eight Lakhs Eighty Seven Thousand Seventy Nine and Thirty One Paisa Only)** with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from (1) M/s Rafah-Ul-Muslimeen Educational Trust (Regd)** Represented by its Hon. Secretary – Mr. Taj Mohammed Khan, Farooqia Educational Complex, Umar Khayyam Road, Eidgah; Tilaknagar, Mysore 570 021, **(2) Mr. (Prof) Riaz Ahmed,** President &Trustee, **(3) Mr. Taj Mohammed Khan,** Secretary & Trustee, **(4) Mr. K C Shoukath Pasha,** Joint Secretary & Trustee, **(5) Dr. Abdur Rahman,** Trustee, **(6) Dr. M Sayeeb Ahmed,** Trustee, **(7) Mr. S P Ahmed Jan,** Trustee. **(8) Mr. (Prof.) Syed Akheel Ahmed,** Trustee, **(9) Mr. Ahmed Agha,** Trustee, **(10) Mr. Arif Mehkri,** Trustee, **(11) Dr. Muneer Ahmed,** Trustee, **(12) Mr. A S Sardar,** Trustee, **(13) Mr. Akbar Sayeed,** Trustee (now reportedly died), **Address of the above 2 to 13** M/s Rafah-Ul-Muslimeen Educational Trust (Regd), Farooqia Educational Complex, Umar Khayyam Road, Eidgah; Tilaknagar, Mysore 570021.
The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through **RTGS/NEFT** in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **04.07.2025 - 5.00 pm.**
(₹.In Lakhs)

Lot	Description of the immovable	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental Value
1	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No. A, Municipal Khatha No. A-1 to A-14, Situated at Laskar Mohalla, Mahadevpura Road, Udayagiri Mysore-570019. Measuring East to West 500 Feet and North to South 170+150/2 feet** and bounded on East By: Road West By: Road North By: Road South By: Road. Total extent of the property is 32,084 Sq ft. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 12.3243566, Longitude- 76.6749867**	₹. 1021.69	₹. 102.17	₹. 1.00
2	All that piece and parcel of 4 Acres of land in Sy. No. 93/2-P-1, Belavatha Village @ Manti Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mysuru Taluk, Mysuru District bounded by East By : Land of Sanjeev Nayak West By : Land, Mohammed Saheb North By : Purniahana Nala South By : Land of Chikkanna. **Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 12.3537780, Longitude- 76.6470830**	₹. 485.50	₹. 48.55	₹. 1.00
	TOTAL	1507.19		

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066, 63819525019, 9483743156, 9414400177, 9039609346 during office hours on any working day.
Date : 17.06.2025
Place: Bengaluru
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No: 09/2025/SBC
Dated : 09-06-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the Supply of following items.
Description in brief : Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, testing, commissioning and maintenance of heavy-duty elevator. **(Tender No. L8255229A) (Qty : 03 Nos.)**
Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 10:30 Hrs on 07-07-2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Materials Manager Bengaluru
PUB/181/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public that my clients **Mr.N.M.Muddappa & Mr. M.VENKATESH** Son of Munishamappa, have intend to purchase the immovable property described in the Schedule hereunder from its owners **Mrs. BHAGYA.N, Mr. SHIVAKUMAR, Mr. PARMESH C.N. Mrs. NAGARATHNA S.T. & Mr.S.NAGENDRA PRASAD.** Any person/s, financial institutions etc having any claims /right/interest in respect of the Scheduled Property may file their objections with the undermentioned with documentary evidence within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no claims are received within the stipulated period it will be presumed that there is no claim in respect of the Scheduled Property and my clients will be proceeding to purchase the same.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All the piece and parcel of agricultural land bearing **Survey No.3/1 (old Sy.No.3),** measuring **2 acres o4 guntas (Two acres Four Guntas), (excluding 00.08 guntas Kharab land),** Situated at Gowdahalli Village, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded;
East by : Property belonging to Revanasiddappa, West by : Land belonging to Ramaiah, North by : Kere Angala & South by : 25 ft Govt. Road.
Lakshmi Law Associates
Advocates and Consultants
Having office at No.28, 12th Cross, Vinayaka Layout, Manorayana Palya, R.T.Nagar, Bangalore-560 032.
Phone No : 78298 29935

10-hour shifts will benefit IT, ITES sectors the most

The amendment will legitimise the violation of working hours that is already happening in the sectors, says the CITU

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

Among the biggest beneficiaries of amendment being proposed to the Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, 1961, will be hundreds of companies in the Information Technology and Information Technology-Enabled Services (IT & ITES) sectors offering software services, backend IT services and hardware sales, among others.

The State government has proposed to increase the daily working hours to 10 from the current nine hours, besides allowing more overtime hours. A meeting is being held on Wednesday to discuss the proposals.

"The amendment will legitimise the violation of working hours that is already happening in the sectors," said Meenakshi Sundaram, general secretary, CITU, Karnataka, calling it at attempt to "legalise the illegal act".

Succumbing to pressure

Trade unions argued that this was being pushed by the Centre. Mr. Sundaram, said, "It is unfortunate that the Congress government is succumbing to the pressure of the Centre and compromising the basic rights of the citizens of Karnataka." Pointing out to a similar exercise by the State government for the factory workers in the State, he said that this would only reduce employment generating potential while helping only profit making. "Their idea of to keep shops and establishments for long hours hoping to increase the turnover. However, people do not have purchasing capacity. Instead, the government should work towards increasing the income of people."

The absence of a strict compliance and monitoring, AITUC State secretary M. Satyananda said, could lead to "wage theft" where employers could force employees to work for longer hours without increasing wages. "How can the Labour Department, which faces staff shortage, inspect thousands of commercial establishments? There will be no mechanism to monitor. Increasing hours would reduce the rest period for workers as well," he said.

'Ease of doing business'

Taking a contrary view, president of Karnataka Employers' Association B.C. Prabhakar said that it would help in "ease of doing business" by exempting establishments employing less than 10 persons from submitting documents.

"In Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab and Uttarakhand, the exemption for submitting annual returns has been exempted to establishments that hire less than 20 persons," said Mr. Prabhakar. He said that increase in the cap for daily working hours and extra overtime is a "progressive measure." "It legitimises what is already going on," he said.

What is the proposal?

To amend Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1961, and Karnataka Shops and Commercial Establishments Rules, 1963

What the amendment seeks

To provide for increase in daily working hours from nine to 10	Provision of daily working hours, including overtime work, increased from 10 to 12	Provision for overtime hours in three continuous months from 50 to 144	The amendment has been brought in BJP ruled States of Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra and Gujarat

Will honour SC order on *Thug Life*, says Shivakumar

Press Trust of India
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday appealed to Kannada activists to abide by the Supreme Court order, which directed the State government to ensure the screening of the Kamal Haasan-starrer movie *Thug Life*.

Kannada activists have been up in the arms against the screening of the movie after the actor's comments about Kannada language sparked a major controversy. They staged protests, lodged police complaint and warned cinemas not to screen the movie, alleging that Haasan insulted Kannada.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday came down heavily on the Karnataka government after *Thug Life* was not screened in cinemas in the State.

CBI holds coordination meeting with bank officials

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Bureau of Investigation(CBI) convened a coordination meeting with officials of the Banking Securities Fraud Investigation Zone, Department of Financial Services (DFS), MoF and Chief Vigilance Officers of Public Sector Banks here on Tuesday.

During the day-long meeting, all pending matters pertaining to ongoing investigation and prosecution of the bank fraud cases being handled by CBI were discussed and several issues were sorted out, said a release.

According to the release, the meeting was a follow up meeting after the high-level meeting held in January this year between Department of Financial Services, CBI and Public Sector Banks, in Mumbai. The agenda was to enhance the inter-departmental cooperation and expedite investigations pertaining to bank fraud cases. Detailed presentations were made by the CBI and Public Sector Banks officials on relevant operational issues.

THE HINDU
OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL

NTPC Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

CORRIGENDUM

A minor correction has been made in the **Qualification Requirements** under **Advt. No. 11/25** (Special Recruitment Drive for SC/ST), for which online applications are being accepted from **11.06.2025 to 25.06.2025.** The updated advertisement with revised QRs is available on **https://careers.ntpc.co.in** Candidates are advised to refer to the **updated advertisement** before submitting their application.

Leading the Power Sector

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Sl No	Position	Location
1	Associate Vice President (Civil)	Thiruvananthapuram
2	Deputy General Manager (Social Health Initiatives)	Thiruvananthapuram
3	Deputy Manager (Biomedical)	Chandigarh

For more details and to apply online, please visit **www.lifecarehll.com/careers**. The last date for submitting the online application is **02.07.2025**. SC/ST/OBC/PwD candidates are eligible for relaxation as per Government of India guidelines.

स्वस्थ पीढ़ियों के लिए नवान्वेषण | Innovating for Healthy Generations

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NIELIT National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology, Calicut
इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय/
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology,
भारत सरकार / Government of India

Advt.No. 3(133)/97/Contract/RECTT/2025/9

REQUIREMENT OF
PROJECT ENGINEER
Last date for Submission of application : 02.07.2025

हम इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा प्रायोजित स्मार्ट लैब कार्यक्रमों और वीएलएसआई परियोजनाओं के लिए काम करने हेतु अनुबंध के आधार पर परिणामोन्मुखी और गतिशील व्यक्तियों की तलाश कर रहे हैं।
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(Under the Uttar Pradesh Private Universities Act No. 12 of 2019)

WALK IN INTERVIEWS FOR
DEANS / ASSOCIATE DEANS

In the following schools:
- School of Computer Science & Engineering
- School of Computer Applications & Technology
- School of Business
- School of Engineering
- School of Law
- School of Liberal Education
- School of Media & Communication Studies
- School of Hospitality & Tourism
- School of Basic Sciences
- School of Commerce
- School of Agriculture
- School of Allied Health Sciences
- School of Medical and Allied Sciences
- School of Nursing
- School of Education
- School of Design
- Galgotias Polytechnic
- School of Biosciences and Technology
- School of Aviation, Logistics and Tourism Management
- School of Artificial Intelligence
- School of Defence Technology

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SCHOOL OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
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- Data Science
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- Corporate Law
- International Law
- Criminal Law

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- Information Technology
- Operations Management
- Business Analytics
- Marketing & Automobile
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Quantitative Techniques
- Human Resource

Eligibility Conditions:
PROFESSOR- Ph.D with 10 years experience in the relevant discipline or equivalent industry experience.
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR- Ph.D with 8 years experience in the relevant field.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR- Post Graduate in relevant discipline Ph D candidates will be preferred

Walk-in interview
between 10:00 am - 4:00 pm on
Saturday, 21st June, 2025 at
Hotel HILTON
124/1, J.N. Salai, Guindy, Chennai-600032

Director HR
GALGOTIAS UNIVERSITY
www.galgotiasuniversity.edu.in
E-mail: recruitments@galgotiasuniversity.edu.in
Plot No. 2, Sector-17A, Yamuna Expressway,
Distt Gautam Buddh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh.
Phone No.: 0120-4806860

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान रोपड़
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROPAR
रूपनगर, पंजाब - 140001 / Rupnagar, Punjab - 140001

Advt. No. 02/2025

Indian Institute of Technology Ropar, an Institute of national importance, is in the search of suitable Indian nationals for appointment to following non-teaching posts on Direct Recruitment / Deputation / Contract basis in the pay level (as per 7th CPC) indicated against each:

S.No.	Name of the Post	Pay Level as per 7th CPC	No. of Vacancies UR	PwD	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	Total
1.	Deputy Librarian	Academic Pay Level-12 (₹ 79800-211500)	01	-	-	-	-	-	01
2.	Medical Officer	Pay Level- 10 (₹56100-177500)	-	-	-	-	01	-	01
3.	Assistant Registrar (Placement)	Pay Level- 10 (₹56100-177500)	01	-	-	-	-	-	01
4.	Technical Officer	Pay Level- 10 (₹56100-177500)	01 (CRF)	01 (CW)	-	-	-	-	02
5.	Security Officer	Pay Level- 10 (₹56100-177500)	01	-	-	-	-	-	01
6.	Counselor	Pay Level- 10 (₹56100-177500)	01	-	-	-	-	-	01
7.	Junior Superintendent	Pay Level-6 (₹ 35400- 112400)	01	-	-	-	-	-	01
8.	Junior Accounts Officer	Pay Level-6 (₹ 35400- 112400)	01 (Lien Vacancy)	-	-	-	-	-	01
9.	Assistant Sports Officer	Pay Level-6 (₹ 35400- 112400)	01	-	-	-	-	-	01
10.	Physical Training Instructor	Pay Level-05 (₹29200-92300)	01	-	-	-	-	-	01
11.	Junior Assistant (Accounts)	Pay Level-3 (₹ 21700- 69100)	-	01	-	-	-	-	01
12.	Junior Assistant	Pay Level-3 (₹ 21700- 69100)	01	-	01	01	01	-	04
13.	Junior Lab Assistant	Pay Level-3 (₹ 21700- 69100)	07(Out of 07posts 01 lien vacancy)	01	01 (lien vacancy)	-	05 (Out of 05 posts 01 lien vacancy)	01	15

Last date of submission of online applications is **15.07.2025 upto 5:30 pm.** For details regarding educational qualification, experience and general conditions, please visit the institute website **http://www.iitrpr.ac.in/staff-positions.**
REGISTRAR

REQUIRES
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
for our Head Office in Trivandrum, Kerala

Muthoot Mercantile Ltd., a premium NBFC in India is looking for experienced financial professionals to lead our financial future and to drive financial growth and stability. Must be a seasoned finance professional with strategic vision and leadership skills.

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Senior leadership professionals with expertise and vision to lead our company preparing for an IPO. Retired CGM's from nationalised or commercial banks, with proven experience and the capability to guide strategic financial planning at the highest level can apply.

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NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY
(An Autonomus & Statutory body)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
5th Floor, TICEL Bio Park, CSIR Road, Taramani,
Chennai - 600113. Ph: 044-22542777.

Applications are invited for filling up the following post on Deputation basis from amongst employees of Central and State Governments.

ACCOUNTS OFFICER - Gr.A
in Pay Matrix Level - 10 (Rs.56100 - Rs.177500)

Eligibility: (a) **1.** Holding analogous post on regular basis (OR) **2.** Holding post in the Pay Matrix Level-8 or equivalent on regular basis for at least two years (OR) **3.** Holding post in the Pay Matrix Level-7 or equivalent on regular basis for at least Five years and
(b) Having experience in the relevant field of Accounts & Finance.
Last date for receipt of applications: 45 days from the date of publication in Employment News dated 14th June – 20th June 2025. For details, please visit **http://nbaindia.org**

भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಶಾಖಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಗ್ರಾಹಕ ವ್ಯವಹಾರಗಳ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ, ಆಹಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ವಿತರಣೆ, ಭಾರತ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION, GOVT. OF INDIA

MANAK MANTHAN
on
IS 1660:2024 – Wrought Aluminum Utensils

For More Details:
Bureau of Indian Standards,
Bengaluru Branch office,
Peenya Industrial Area 1st Stage,
Tumkur Rd, Bengaluru - 560058.
Karnataka.
Contact us : bnbo@bis.gov.in

Date: 23 June 2025,
Time: 9.30 am to 1:00 pm

Venue: RG Royal Hotel,
19, Behind Ravindu Toyota,
Yeshwantpur, Mahalakshmi Layout,
Bengaluru, Karnataka 560086

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Bengaluru stampede: Protesting BJP leaders taken into custody

Party State president B.Y. Vijayendra claims that the Congress government organised the felicitation programme for the RCB in front of the Vidhana Soudha in a hurry at the behest of the Chief Minister to cash in on the team's IPL victory

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Several prominent BJP leaders were taken into custody in Bengaluru on Tuesday when they tried to lay siege to the official residence of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah demanding his resignation, as well as that of Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar, in connection with the stampede in Bengaluru during RCB's victory celebrations that claimed 11 lives on June 4.

Taking action: Police detaining BJP workers protesting in Bengaluru on Tuesday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Those taken into custody included BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra, Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok, Leader of Opposition in the Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, and former Deputy Chief Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan. They were later released.

The leaders and party workers were taken into custody when they started marching towards the Chief Minister's official residence after holding a protest at Freedom Park.

Earlier, addressing protesters, Mr. Vijayendra and Mr. Ashok called upon party workers and leaders not to end their campaign till the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister step down.

Mr. Vijayendra alleged that the Congress government had organised the felicitation programme in front of Vidhana Soudha in a hurry at the behest of the Chief Minister to cash in on RCB's victory. The Deputy Chief Minister had tried to outsmart the Chief Minister by making his presence felt at the celebrations at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium. "The political tussle between the CM and the Deputy CM resulted in organising the victory celebrations in a hurry, much against the advice of the police," he alleged.

Mr. Ashok accused the Chief Minister of being the 'main culprit' behind the stampede. "Mr. Siddaramaiah is trying to cover up his lapses by falsely claiming that the felicitation programme had not been organised by the government, and that he was not aware who had invited Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot. But, it has turned out that the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR) and the Chief Secretary had provided all the necessary clearances for the programme, and the Chief Minister himself had invited the Governor," he said.

"Those who took selfies at the programme were the kin of the CM and other politicians, but those who suspended were police officers," he said. "We have seen governments falling in Karnataka earlier following the curse of farmers. This government will fall owing to the curse of parents of youngsters who died in the stampede," Mr. Ashok remarked.

"People are saying that there was an intelligence failure. But the Chief Minister has desisted from taking any harsh action against the police intelligence chief, other than transferring him," Mr. Narayanaswamy alleged, hinting that the then intelligence chief's wife is a Congress leader.

Release list of leaders who resigned after deaths in BJP-ruled States, dares CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah dared the opposition BJP to release a list of leaders who resigned following stampedes in BJP-rules States before demanding that he and Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar bow out.

Citing the Gujarat riots in 2002, terrorist attack in Pahalgam in J&K in which 26 persons lost their lives, the continuing violence in Manipur, Morbi bridge collapse that claimed 140 lives in Gujarat, and death of 30 pilgrims during the Maha Kumbh Mela in Uttar Pradesh in January 2025, Mr. Siddaramaiah questioned the credibility of the BJP's protest and the demand for his resignation and that of Mr. Shivakumar.

The Chief Minister said a retired judge of the High Court was conducting an investigation into the stampede at the Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru on June 4 that claimed 11 lives. Based on the commission's report, strict action would be taken against the culprits without hesitation, he said.

'Unfortunate incident'

In a statement released to the press, Mr. Siddaramaiah stated, "What happened near Chinnaswamy stadium on June 4, 2025, is an unfortunate accident. As a responsible government, we have taken accountability for the incident. We have suspended senior police officers, including the Bengaluru City Police Commissioner, and transferred the Chief of the State Intelligence Department. My political secretary (Govindaraju, MLC) has also been relieved of his duties. Additionally, we have constituted a one-member commission led by Justice (retired) John Michael D'Cunha to conduct a thorough investigation into the matter."

"Despite taking such decisive action, the BJP leaders in Karnataka continue to protest. This makes it evident that their motives are political rather than driven by genuine concern for the people. Politicising tragedies is not new to the BJP," Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

During Gujarat riots

Recalling past incidents, Mr. Siddaramaiah said, "During the Gujarat riots in 2002, approximately 2,000 innocent persons from various communities lost their lives. Despite then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's suggestion to take responsibility and resign, then Chief Minister Narendra Modi neither stepped down nor expressed any remorse till date."

He further said that in April this year, during the terrorist attack in Pahalgam in J&K, 26 persons lost their lives. "Our party did not demand the resignation of the Prime Minister over this incident. We merely requested a special parliamentary session to discuss the attack, which was denied by the Prime Minister. Even now, the perpetrators of this attack have not been identified. Isn't this a failure of the Central Government?"

ED summons D.K. Suresh in Aishwarya Gowda case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has issued summons to former Member of Parliament D.K. Suresh in connection with the Aishwarya Gowda gold cheating case.

Aishwarya is alleged to have cheated multiple jewellers in the State of over ₹8 crore worth of gold, which she had taken on loan, reportedly after falsely claiming to be the sister of Mr. Suresh.

In her complaint, one of the jewellers who was cheated claimed that when she demanded money for the gold she had given to Aishwarya, an actor who identified himself as Dharma had called her claiming to be Mr. Suresh.

When the cheating came to light in 2024, Mr. Suresh had lodged a complaint with the Bengaluru Police Commissioner pointing out that his name was being misused by fraudsters.

'Summons absurd'

Mr. Suresh told mediapersons on Tuesday that he had received the summons to appear before the agency on Thursday, but he had told ED officials that he would do so on June 23 due to a pre-scheduled programme on Thursday.

"The accused in this case is in no way related to me. She has falsely claimed to be my sister. It is true that I have visited two events organised by her, as she was a voter in my constituency, and apart from that, I have had no other relationship with her. I have had no financial transactions with her. When it came to light that she was misusing my name, I lodged a police complaint. Summoning me in this case is absurd. But I will cooperate with the investigation," he said.

His elder brother and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said a few people who were cheated by Aishwarya misusing Mr. Suresh's name had met him earlier.

"My brother's name has been misused; he is a victim and has lodged a police complaint as well. But the ED has summoned him. We always respect the law and will cooperate with the investigation," he told mediapersons.

In judicial custody

The ED had taken up a probe into the cheating case in April 2025, raided premises linked to Aishwarya and Congress MLA Vinay Kulkarni, for his alleged links with the accused. The ED arrested Aishwarya and she is in judicial custody.

Don't arrest or take any coercive step against top executives of RCSPL and DNA for now: HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday directed the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) not to arrest or take any coercive step for now against Rajesh V. Menon, chief operating officer (COO) of Royal Challengers Sports Pvt. Ltd. (RCSPL), and Venkata Vardhana Thimmaiah, managing director of DNA Entertainment Ltd., in connection with the criminal case registered with regard to the June 4 stampede outside M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here.

Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar passed the interim order on petitions filed by RCSPL, which owns the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), and DNA, which is the official event manager for the RCSPL.

However, the court directed the petitioners to cooperate with the CID for the probe.

Meanwhile, the court also directed the police not to proceed further on the two other first information reports (FIRs) registered based on the complaint of injured persons on the same incident of stampede, on which the first FIR was registered. The court passed this order after it was pointed out to it that multiple FIRs in connection with the same incident were not permissible in the law as the police would have to treat multiple complaints on the same incident under one FIR.

Questioning the registration of the FIR against them, both the RCSPL and DNA blamed Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for the large gathering for the RCB's victory celebrations.

Countering the allegations that their social media posts inviting RCB fans to participate in the victory celebrations sans obtaining permission led to the stampede, the petitioner-companies contended that the very same act of inviting the public to a celebration was committed by the Chief Minister, who in much the same way as the RCSPL, invited fans on social media.

Meanwhile, a Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice V. Kameswar Rao and Justice C.M. Joshi impleaded the RCSPL, DNA Entertainment and the Karnataka State Cricket Association in the PIL petition initiated *suo motu* by the court on the stampede issue, and ordered issue of notice to them.

VJNL wins award

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited (VJNL) has won ISDA INFRACON National Award for 2025 for using cutting-edge technology in the Yettinahole project. The award, instituted by the Infrastructure Skill Development Academy, was given in New Delhi on June 14.

VJNL managing director Sanna Chittaiah and his team met Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who also handles the Irrigation portfolio, along with the award on Tuesday.

The award was given for the use of advanced technology in building the 10.47-km aqueduct between 199.62 km and 210.09 km stretch of the Yettinahole drinking water project.

Efforts on to ensure safe return of Kannadigas from Israel, Iran: Siddaramaiah

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday promised that efforts are under way to safely bring back Kannadigas stranded in the war-hit regions of Israel and Iran.

He also said the government is closely monitoring the situation and is in constant touch with those affected. "I have spoken to Kannadigas stuck in war-hit regions. I also spoke to our Congress spokesperson Nataraj Gowda," Mr. Siddaramaiah told reporters here.

Siddaramaiah

B-PAC team

An 18-member B-PAC group comprising leaders from different political parties is also stranded in Tel Aviv because flights are grounded. "Airports are closed there currently, but the people are being taken care of properly," said the Chief Minister.

He said the State government is coordinating with central authorities and would make necessary arrangements to facilitate the safe return of those stranded as soon as the situation improves.

"The airport is likely to reopen tomorrow or the day after. Once that happens, we will try to bring them back at the earliest," he said.

Officials on standby

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that officials are on standby to coordinate travel and ensure that the return of the stranded individuals is handled smoothly and with urgency.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

Shri S Lakshmi Narayanan alias Sampath
Retd Dy Registrar of Co-op societies
Attained Acharyan Thiruvadi on 16 Jun 2025
Lovingly remembered and Deeply Missed by
Family and Friends
Ph: 73387 72698, 97907 46064

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
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GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
TENDER NOTICE
T1/10821/2025 Date: 17.06.2025

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, e-Tenders are invited from Manufacturers or Authorised Sole Distributor for **Sl. No. 1 to 6** and Manufacturers or Authorised Sole Distributor or Authorised Dealer for **Sl. No. 7** by **the Chief Engineer (AE), Agricultural Engineering Department, 487, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai-35** for the following items, as per the terms and conditions and detailed specification listed in the tender document.

Sl.No.	Tender No.	Tender for the supply of	EMD (Rs. in lakh)
1	T2-1/ 2025-2026	50 Nos. of Tractor Operated Disc Plough	0.40
2	T2-2/ 2025-2026	4 Nos. of Geophysical Surveying Equipments – Resistivity Meter	0.18
3	T2-3/ 2025-2026	10 Nos. of Tractor 2 Wheel Drive	1.30
4	T2-4/ 2025-2026	5 Nos. of Tractor Operated Ridge Moulder	0.23
5	T2-5/ 2025-2026	10 Nos. of Tractor PTO Operated Water Pump with Accessories	0.20
6	T2-6/ 2025-2026	10 Nos. of Wheel Type Paddy Combine Harvester	3.50
7	T2-7/ 2025-2026	5 Nos. of Multi Axle Carrier for Bulldozers	3.00

The tender documents with detailed specifications and Bill of Quantity (BoQ) are available in **www.tntenders.gov.in** as per schedule below. Tender documents and Bill of Quantity (BoQ) can be downloaded, filled and uploaded from the site **www.tntenders.gov.in** at free of cost.

Tender Publishing Date and Time	18.06.2025, 10.00 AM
Tender document download – Start Date and Time	18.06.2025, 10.00 AM
Bid submission - Start Date and Time	18.06.2025, 11.00 AM
Bid submission - Closing Date and Time	02.07.2025, 02.00 PM
Bid opening Date and Time	03.07.2025, 03.00 PM

The e-Tenders will be opened online through **www.tntenders.gov.in** on the date and time mentioned above at the office of **the Chief Engineer (AE), Agricultural Engineering Department, Nandanam, Chennai.**

DIPR/ 3074 /TENDER/2025 Chief Engineer (AE)

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
TAMIL NADU URBAN HABITAT DEVELOPMENT BOARD
No. 5, Kamarajar Salai, Chennai - 600005, Tamil Nadu, India.

Invitation for Bids No: IRSHUPSP/NCB/07

ADB Loan No. and Project Title: 4106-IND: Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable Housing for Urban Poor Sector Project in Tamil Nadu.

Contract No. and Title: IRSHUPSP/PUM/07, Construction of 377 tenements (G+5, PS+5 and PS+6+3 floors) with development works at Pumping Station in Greater Chennai Corporation Division. No - 62, Zone-V at Chennai District.

The Superintending Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit, on behalf of Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board ("the Employer") invites bids from eligible bidders for the contract package named above. Bids are invited under Open Competitive Bidding (OCB) - National procedure of ADB which is open to all bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.

1. Detailed Notice of Invitation for Bids (IFB) and the Bid document for above package would be available at **www.tntenders.gov.in** starting from **18.06.2025.** Deadline for bid submission is **16:00 hours** on **18.07.2025.** All required information are provided in the bid document.
2. Online & Offline Pre-bid Meeting will be held at **14:00 hours** on **03.07.2025.** All the prospective bidders are advised to participate in the Pre-bid meeting.
3. Any addendum, clarification to the bidder's queries and corrigendum etc. will be published on the **www.tntenders.gov.in** website and will not be published in Newspapers.
4. Bidders may contact Superintending Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit, TNUHDB for any other information on bidding process.

Superintending Engineer, Project Monitoring Unit

DIPR/3087/TENDER/2025

DEPARTMENT OF MINORITY WELFARE
Directorate of Minorities
No.16C, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Bhavan,
Miller Tank Bund Road, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru - 52.
Website: https://dom.karnataka.gov.in
Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Sikh, Parsi
ANNOUNCEMENT OF FEE REIMBURSMENT SCHOLARSHIP 2025-26

Online Application

Online Applications are invited from eligible minority community students of Karnataka State who are pursuing PUC, Diploma, Graduates, Post Graduates, Technical & Professional Courses for the year 2025-26.

For online application visit the following websites

The students can apply for scholarships by visiting the links given below:
https://ssp.postmatric.karnataka.gov.in/post_sa/signin.aspx
(State Scholarship Portal (Post-matric & MCM)

Timeline

Start date for apply online for Applications: 13.06.2025.
Last date to apply online for Applications: 30.09.2025.

Eligibility Conditions

1. The student must belong to minority communities (Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Sikhs and Parsi)
2. The student must be a resident of Karnataka.
3. The student must have scored at least 50% marks in the previous semester/year final exam.
4. Total family income should not exceed Rs. 2.00 lakhs for Post-Matric (Fee Reimbursement) & 2.5 lakhs for Merit-Cum-Means (Fee Reimbursement)
5. The students who are studying in 1st Std in the current academic year should apply.
6. Eligibility conditions for Fee Reimbursement scheme is subject to the Government orders and Guidelines issued by the government from time to time.

For further details, Instructions and procedures please visit Directorate of Minorities website
https://dom.karnataka.gov.in
For assistance contact nearest Minority Information Centres (MIC) or contact the Minority Welfare Department 24X7 helpline number: 8277799990

NOTE: The current notification is applicable only to Fee-Reimbursement. The applications shall be considered only under Fee Reimbursement scheme.

Date: 13.06.2025
Place: Bengaluru
Sd/-
Director
Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/1287/2025-26

INBRIEF

A.P. govt. to announce new policy to manage waste

The Andhra Pradesh government will announce a new circular economy policy in the next two months as part of its efforts to strengthen the waste management system in the State. The government would also set up three circular economy parks within a year. Announcing this at a review meeting at the Secretariat in Vijayawada on Tuesday, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said single-use plastic would be banned in 17 municipal corporations, including Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, and Tirupati from October 2.

Hyderabad Metro to get three more corridors

The Telangana government has issued orders approving three new corridors for the Hyderabad Metro. The work on the new 86-km Metro Phase II-B corridors will be undertaken by the Hyderabad Airport Metro Limited as a 50:50 joint venture with the Centre at an estimated cost of ₹19,579 crore. The corridors are Rajiv Gandhi International Airport to Future City (Skills University) 39.6 km, Jubilee Bus Station (JBS) to Medchal 24.5 km, and JBS to Shamirpet 22 km.

IndiGo flight from Kochi makes emergency landing

An IndiGo flight headed for Delhi from the Cochin International Airport made an emergency landing in Nagpur on Tuesday following a bomb threat. The bomb threat was received on the Kochi airport's official e-mail. A safety inspection of the flight was held at the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport in Nagpur. Later, the aircraft with over 157 passengers and six crew members left for Delhi.

Kerala HC bans single-use plastic in hilly areas, hotels

Court expresses concern over irresponsible disposal of plastic waste in the State; bans use of plastic in eateries, weddings, and functions hosted by government agencies from October 2

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Expressing concern at the pollution due to unregulated and irresponsible disposal of plastic waste in the State, the Kerala High Court on Tuesday issued an order banning the use of single-use plastic items in hilly areas where visitors converge in large numbers, at functions like weddings and also in eateries from October 2, Gandhi Jayanthi.

The ban is on plastic water bottles with less than five litre carrying capacity, soft drink bottles with less than two litre carrying capacity, food containers, plates, cups and straws, among others, and is extended to official functions hosted by government agencies. Irresponsible disposal of plastic waste posed a serious threat to all life forms, said the court.

Serious threat: Wild elephants eating plastic from a dumping yard at Kallar near Munnar in Kerala. FILE PHOTO

The court went on to add that adequate number of kiosks that vend clean and safe drinking water must be set up at tourist spots in hilly areas, at weddings and other events, or water should be supplied in glass or stainless steel bottles.

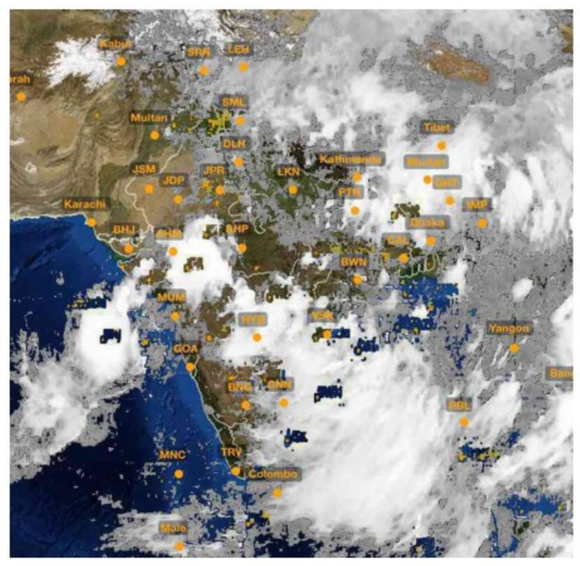
'Keep waterbodies safe'

In addition, the State government and local bodies must take steps to prevent the dumping of plastic waste in waterbodies.

On its part, the State government must take steps to spread awareness on the ill effects of single-use plastics and the indiscriminate dumping of plastic waste, the court said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	10	29.8	25.6	Kozhikode	55	28.4	23.6
Ahmedabad	41	27.6	25.5	Kurnool	—	36.0	25.6
Aizawl	—	31.0	21.4	Lucknow	—	37.6	27.2
Allahabad	32.4	37.5	25.4	Madurai	—	37.2	26.1
Bengaluru	0.9	27.6	20.8	Mangaluru	21.1	27.4	23.7
Bhopal	5	34.4	25.0	Mumbai	83	32.6	25.0
Bhubaneswar	12.2	30.4	25.0	Mysuru	—	29.0	—
Chandigarh	3	31.0	25.1	New Delhi	—	36.2	28.0
Chennai	—	37.4	28.9	Patna	—	38.0	29.4
Coimbatore	2	29.0	22.4	Port Blair	4	30.4	24.9
Dehradun	1	34.7	24.5	Puducherry	—	36.7	26.5
Gangtok	19	22.9	18.4	Pune	2.4	31.7	24.0
Goa	4	32.2	26.0	Raipur	—	33.5	26.9
Guwahati	0.6	33.4	26.8	Ranchi	1	28.3	24.1
Hubballi	—	29.0	23.0	Shillong	12	23.4	18.4
Hyderabad	—	33.8	24.1	Shimla	43	21.8	16.5
Imphal	0.5	29.2	24.8	Srinagar	—	30.5	16.9
Jaipur	0.4	34.1	26.2	Thiruvananthapuram	11	31.2	23.0
Kochi	46	30.0	23.4	Tiruchi	—	36.9	26.4
Kohima	65	23.0	19.4	Vijayawada	8	36.0	25.6
Kolkata	23	28.8	26.0	Visakhapatnam	0.3	32.2	27.3

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.13	..78	42	 18	21	.....
Bengaluru	.11	3	22	 32	...144	.....
Chennai	.10	..16	65	 67	56	.....
Delhi	.16	..33	53	... 108	...157	.....
Hyderabad	.21	..15	35	 81	90	.....
Kolkata	.11	..47	31	 35	36	.....
Lucknow	...7	..40	18	 79	...114	.....
Mumbai	.70	..16	47	 23	77	.....
Pune	.12	..—	47	 52	60	.....
Visakhapatnam	.12	..74	41	 59	98	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 276 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 9

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

NHRC orders inquiry into MLA's complaint over police harassment

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has directed its Director General (Investigation) to depute an officer for a spot inquiry into allegations made by Mangaluru City North MLA Y. Bharath Shetty regarding police harassment of members of organisations belonging to a particular community.

In the complaint mailed to the NHRC on June 4, Dr. Shetty accused the Dakshina Kannada district police of harassing law-abiding citizens through their "unconstitutional surveillance".

He stated that over the past seven days, several law-abiding citizens, social workers and individuals associated with organisations belonging to a community were subjected to late-night police visits, often after 11 p.m.

The MLA further stated that the individuals under surveillance do not have a criminal background, an FIR, or an ongoing investigation. During these visits, police personnel have allegedly taken photographs, recorded GPS locations and questioned individuals without presenting any legal orders, warrants or notices. Dakshina Kannada Superintendent of Police K. Arun has publicly justified these actions in a video statement, claiming that the surveillance is a part of efforts to monitor communal organisations.

DK and Udupi get new DCs

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The government transferred the Deputy Commissioners of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts, M.P. Mullai Muhilan and K. Vidyakumari, on Tuesday.

It has posted H.V. Darshan and T.K. Swaroopa as DCs of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi, respectively. Mr. Muhilan was posted as the Inspector General of Registration and Commissioner of Stamps, Bengaluru.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD GADAG DIVISION, GADAG.
Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division, Gadag.
Phone No: 08372-238782 Fax No. 08372-237268 E.Mail: eepwdgad@gmail.com
No: EEPWDGDG PB-1:Corrigendum:2025-26:1048 Dated: 17-06-2025
Corrigendum and Short Term Tender Notification
The Calendar of Events works notified under this office tender notification No: 925 Dated: 05-06-2025 (W.I. 22056) Work revised calendar of events as follows.
(a) Last Date for Clarification **up to: 19-06-2025** (b) Last Date for Receipt of **Tenders: 24-06-2025** Noon 4:00 PM (c) Opening of Technical Bid **Date: 25-06-2025** (d) Opening of Financial Bid **Date: 26-06-2025**
Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/Gadag/111/DeshpandePublicity/2025-26 **P.W.D. Gadag Division, Gadag.**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No: SEE/Tr(O)C-N/EEE/AE/F-T6/25-26/633 Date: 17.06.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)
KPTCL invites tender against Tender Number: **KPTCL/2025-26/SS/WORK_INDENT2316** "Re-conditioning of 150MVA CGL make Power Transformer and other related works at 220/66kV "A" Station, pertaining to NRS Operations Division, KPTCL, Bengaluru" on Partial Turnkey & Percentage Basis".
The bids will be received through KPP Portal only. The details regarding participation in the E-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **19.06.2025.**
Sd/- **Superintending Engineer Electy.,**
Tr. (Operations) Circle-North, KPTCL, UAS Campus, Hebbala, Bengaluru-560024. Ph: 080-23513952.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, (RR Nagara-Lakes)
3rd Floor, Annex Building-3 N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002.
No:EE(Lakes-RRN)/Tend-01/2025-26 Date: 17.06.2025
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)
(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
Tenders on Item Rate basis are invited by the undersigned for the works mentioned below from the registered contractors with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/ MES or any Central/State Government Organizations.

Sl No.	Name of the works
1.	Pathway Improvements, intel correction and construction of culverts to Kengeri Lake **Approx Value of Work: ₹.167.00 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.2.51 Lakhs**
2.	Strengthening of main bund and rectification of seepage through flood mitigation gate at Dubasipalya Lake **Approx Value of Work: ₹.125.25 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.1.88 Lakhs**
3.	Construction of waste weir and sluice gate for Kenchanapura Lake **Approx Value of Work: ₹.83.50 Lakhs, EMD: ₹.1.67 Lakhs**

Calendar of Events : (1) Available of Tender Documents **20.06.2025** after 4:00 pm (2) Pre-Bid meeting on **27.06.2025** at **4:00** pm (3) Last date & time for Receipt of Tenders is **04.07.2025** upto **4:00** pm (4) Opening of Technical Bid **05.07.2025** at **4:30** pm (5) Opening of Financial Bid: after approval of Technical Bid
Sd/- Executive Engineer (RR Nagara-Lakes)

Government of India
MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CENTRAL TAX
5th Floor, C.R. Building Annexe,
Bengaluru South Commissionerate
PO 5400, C.R. Building (Annexe), 5th Floor, Bengaluru-560001.
Ph: 080-22869007, Email: Legalblr.south@gov.in
PROCLAMATION u/s 84 of BNSS, REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF PERSON BEFORE THE HON'BLE SPECIAL COURT FOR ECONOMICS OFFENCES, BANGALORE
In the case C.C. NO 32/2019 - The Assistant Commissioner of Central Excise (Legal) v/s Sri. H.G. Ramakrishna, the Hon'ble Special Court For Economic Offences, Bangalore has issued Proclamation u/s 82 of Criminal Procedure Code to the following accused.
i. A-3, Sri. H.G.Ramakrishna, Propreitor of M/s Filtraonics Electronics, No.156, Kempanna Building, Hulimavu, Bannerghatta Road, Bengalore-560076.
The above-mentioned person is directed to appear before the Hon'ble Special Court For Economic Offences, Bangalore on or before **30.07.2025.**
Sd/- Commissioner of Central Tax
Bangalore South Commissionerate

Karnataka Institute of Endocrinology & Research, Bengaluru
(An Autonomous Regd. Institute of Govt. of Karnataka)
Old Madras Road, Indiranagar, Bengaluru -560038
Ph: +91-80-25283013, +91-80-24492900
Website: www.kierbengaluru.karnataka.gov.in
TENDER NOTIFICATION
KIER invites tenders from eligible bidders for the supply of the following Medical Equipment in two bid system through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka.

Sl.No.	Tender Notification No. & date	Subject
1.	KIER/TENDER/OCTA/2025-26 Dated: 17.06.2025	Supply of Optical Coherence Tomography Angiography machine (OCTA)

E.M.D.&Security Deposit : As mentioned in the tender document. Commencement of download of e-Tender Form from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**: **18.06.2025, 04.00 p.m. onwards.** Last Date for submission of tenders: **03.07.2025 upto 04.00 p.m.** Date of opening of Technical Bids: **05.07.2025 at 11.30 a.m.** For further details contact office during office hours. The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept/ reject/ cancel the tender partially or fully without assigning any reason.
DIPR/CP/JA/1291/2025-26 **Sd/- AO, KIER, Bengaluru.**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION
STATE HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY
Arogya Soudha, 1st floor, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-23
Phone No: 080-23113584 email id: **pdrch-hfws@karnataka.gov.in**
No. HFWS-17013/19/2025- (e-1787995) Date: 17/06/2025
IND NO: NHM/2025-26/IND0033
TENDER THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT
"TENDER FOR SUPPLY & COMMISSIONING OF TELEMETRY DEVICE FOR LIQUID MEDICAL OXYGEN TANKS UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION (NHM)"
National Health Mission, Bengaluru invites tender from Original Equipment Manufacturers/ Authorized Dealers, with necessary documents for TENDER FOR SUPPLY & COMMISSIONING OF TELEMETRY DEVICE FOR LIQUID MEDICAL OXYGEN TANKS UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION (NHM).
The detailed notification regarding eligibility and other details can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
The Tender document can be downloaded through "e-procurement Portal" from **17/06/2025** onwards and last date for receipt of tender is on or before **23/07/2025 at 05.30pm.**
Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during the office hours from 11:00am to 04:00pm.
Sd/-
DIPR/CP/1302/Zen/2025-26 **CAO (NHM)**

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
The Executive Engineer, KBJNL NRBC Division No.5 Rodalbanda-584127,
Tq :Lingasugur, Dist: Raichur email:kbjnleenrbc5@gmail.com
No:KBJNL/EE/NRBC Divn No.5/PB /SCADA Quotation/2025-26/ 37
Date::16.06.2025
QUOTATION NOTIFICATION
Ref:: ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಆದೇಶ ಸಂ:ಕಸಂಪಾ:04:ವಾಪ್ರಜಾ:2017 ದಿ:19–01–2017
Sealed quotations are invited by the under signed on behalf of Managing Director,KBJNL, Bengaluru from the reputed manufacturers/ authorized dealers/ suppliers/ Service providers for Non-Schedule of Rates Items "SCADA automation for pipeline network scheme with Solenoid valve , flow control valve , Electromagnetic flow meter, Double eccentric butterfly valve and Pressure relief valve of different diameter varying from 110mm to 2200mm and Design , Supply, installation , testing and commissioning of unlimited tags , SCADA run time License, SCADA development Licensed software , console panel ,power & signal Cabling etc. for SCADA accessories & allied items for Outlet management system (OMS) and Network management system (NMS) " for the work of "Consultancy services for the work of Survey, Investigation, Excavation of Trial pit, Drilling of Trial Core Bores including Detailed Engineering, Preparation of Designs, Drawings, DPR, Estimates, Draft Tender Documents including preparation of necessary Land Acquisition proposals for Lift Headworks, Rising Main, Delivery Chamber, Gravity Mains and Piped Distribution Network for 19,600 Ha. of command area under Pamanakallur and other villages in Maski taluk of Raichur district (Indent No.1560)" project of KBJNL. The same technical specification is uploaded in KBJNL web site:www.kbjnl.com. Further information in this regard ,contact undersigned office or office mail ID: kbjnleenrbc5@gmail.com. The sealed quotations should reach the office of the undersigned either by post or in person on or before 26.06.2025 at 5.30 PM. The sealed quotations will be openend at the office of the undersigned on 27.06.2025 at 11.00 AM.
The agency should note that breakup the stated specification if required and the rates quoted shall be inclusive of all applicable taxes, duties, packing, transporations, loading and unloading and other hidden charges etc and excluding GST.
DIP/RCR/180/KSMC&A/181/2024-25 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, KBJNL, NRBC Div No-5 Rodalbanda**

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned government of Karnataka)
CIN Number: U04010KA2002SGC030436
No. GESCOM/SEE (Procurement)/EE/AEE/2025-26/18310-315 Date:17.06.2025.
SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPP PORTAL MODE ONLY)
PC-1396 (Call-2) : Supply of safety Shoes with two pair of socks as per GESCOM Specifications .
Tender Amount: **Rs. 118.51 Lakhs**
Dates: Bid documents available at KPPP Portal: on or after **18.06.2025,** Last Date for Bid submission, Opening of Technical Bid and opening of price Bid: **As per KPP Portal**
Bidder Qualifying Requirements: As per tender documents (IFB): For additional information Contact: Superintending Engineer El., Procurement, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi-585102. Mobile: 94484 99997. Web Site Address: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.
For information about the KPP portal, contact the helpline at +91-8046010000/ 8068948777 or e-mail address:support@eprochelpdesk.com
Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Procurement), GESCOM, Corporate Office, Kalaburagi
DIPR/Kalaburagi/217/KSMC&A/2025-26

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED
Reg. Office: 30/1, 1st and 2nd Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Millers Tank Bund Area, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru- 560051. Email: bswmlee4@gmail.com
No: DGM-2/BSWML/EOI/02/2025-26 Date: 17.06.2025
INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (Through GOK KPP Portal only)
The Deputy General Manager-2, BSWML invites EOI on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru hereby invites Expression of Interest from Manufacturers / Suppliers / Individual Entrepreneurs / Reputed Dealers to give the rates for items required for landfill and processing plants as indicated in the table below. Additional details are available in GOK website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Interested applicants may go through the details and apply on or before **24.06.2025 at 16.00 hours.**

Sl.No.	Item Specifications
1	Rates for Chemicals, Liners, Spraying items and other required items for Landfill and Processing Plant

NOTE: (1) The Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited, Bengaluru reserves the right to accept / Reject tenders without assigning any reasons. **(2)** Corrigendum's / modifications / corrections, if any, will be published in the KPP Portal only. **(3)** Further details of the work can be obtained in the office of Deputy General Manager-2 BSWML, Bengaluru-560052 on all working days between **11:00 hours to 17:00 hours. (4)** GOK KPP portal **http://KPPP.karnataka.gov.in** for registration details contact KPPP Helpdesk at 080- 22371090/22340060/22340948.
DIPR/CP/1298/SSC/2025-26 **Sd/- Deputy General Manager-2, BSWML.**

Easing prices

Inflation is falling, but the unpredictability factor is high now

The inflation data for May show just how much can change in one month. Retail inflation came in at a 75-month low of 2.8% in May, with easing food prices the main reason behind this fall. Wholesale inflation, too, slowed to just 0.4%, the lowest in more than a year. The primary driver here, apart from falling food prices, was a drastic contraction of 12.4% in crude oil and natural gas prices. An oversupply of oil and a slowing global economy had meant that the months leading up to May had seen oil prices fall considerably. With India importing about 80% of its oil requirement, this eventually translated into lower wholesale inflation in the country. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had, in its monetary policy announcement on June 11, predicted that inflation for the year would come in at an average of 3.7%, down from its forecast of 4% in April. According to some analysts, retail inflation in June could come in as low as 2% – the lower end of the RBI's comfort band since current factors impact the data with a considerable lag. Overall, the feeling until not too long ago was that inflation would continue to ease. But then Israel attacked Iran, and the monsoon's progress across the country slowed, both developments that are likely to affect the two key factors, fuel and food, that had, until now, led to the fall in overall inflation.

Oil prices jumped as much as 8% in a single day following Israel's attack on Iran on June 13. *The Hindu* had, last week, reported that an escalation of tensions between the two countries and a resultant blockage of the vital Strait of Hormuz could result in a 40%-50% increase in shipping costs for Indian exports and imports, and could impact India's oil supplies from key sources such as Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. This is not an unlikely eventuality, either, with Commerce Ministry officials set to hold a meeting this week with trade and shipping sector stakeholders to discuss how the government can ease their distress. Costlier inputs, especially oil, will eventually move the inflation needle back up. The monsoon has picked up pace again, according to India Meteorological Department officials, but it's still early days. In the past, even though the overall monsoon has been satisfactory, its uneven spatial distribution has left several agricultural areas parched. It is far from certain that food prices will continue their downward trajectory. In its last monetary policy meeting, the RBI shifted its stance to 'neutral', indicating that it was as ready to raise interest rates as it was to cut them. This was prescient, as the last few weeks have shown just how nimble monetary policy has to be in these increasingly unpredictable times.

A free hand

Science must be unfettered if it is to be useful

Last week, the government issued a set of orders that scientists have heralded as 'revolutionary'. A major change is in allowing scientific institutions to bypass the Government e-Marketplace (GEM), a Commerce Ministry initiative that is meant to prioritise made-in-India equipment. GEM norms require all government purchases – from laptops to furniture – to be routed through the GEM-portal, with a mandate to buy from the vendor offering the lowest price. While technocrats in government amplified this bypass as a "landmark" initiative to promote 'ease of doing research and development,' the fact is that until GEM-based procurement was made mandatory from 2020, the default option was to allow individual scientific institutions the freedom to make their choices regarding the vendors they procure. Take for example, sodium chloride. Something as common as table salt must be available in infinite supply and it is only proper that laboratories – they require great quantities for its myriad applications in research – source it from the supplier who offers it the cheapest. However, much like the avatars of salt – kosher, flat or sea – are uncommonly unique to the chef, the differences in purity even within common salt are critical to scientific research as well as the manufacture of pharmaceuticals. This translates to some vendors being more reliable and, therefore, more preferred.

A major aspect of scientific research is about being able to reproduce results of experiments described in publications. Often, this requires fidelity to the methods and materials of the original experimenter. Given the challenge of budgets, the inability to source the right material results in experiments being junked halfway, or crimping on experimental ambition, resulting, overall, in a net loss of resources, time and effort. If this is extended to materials more complicated than salt – precision lathes, customised lab-produced diamonds, biological molecules, for example – it is easy to understand the gripe of scientists. It is understandable, and pardonable, when a government experiments with an untested policy and runs into uncharted waters or unknown unknowns. In the case of GEM, it was a known fact that India lacked an industrial base for sophisticated machinery, and it was inevitable that the hammer-head policy that saw all products as cookie-cutter nails would impede scientific research. India's scientific ministries are unique in that they are led by scientists, instead of the usual norm of having career bureaucrats. This was due to a recognition, dating back to the early years of the republic, that while science and technology can be employed to serve the state, science itself is unfettered and must be specially nurtured to be useful. A free hand is worth more than two fettered arms.

A chance to rebuild the trust, restore faith in air travel

Captain A. (Mohan) Ranganathan

is a former airline instructor pilot and aviation safety adviser. He is also a former member of the Civil Aviation Safety Advisory Council (CASAC), India

The fatal crash of Air India flight AI171 at Ahmedabad on June 12, 2025, has thrown open the floodgates for TRP-seeking media channels to cause fear among air travellers. 'Experts' on YouTube channels are going overboard with theories about what caused the accident, that are in turn being lapped up by viewers. The media has also been reporting events days after the accident that have involved Boeing 787 Dreamliners, such as flights of various airlines returning to airports for various reasons, adding to the general anxiety.

The Digital Flight Data Recorder and the Cockpit Voice Recorder (DFDR and CVR) of AI171 have been recovered intact from the wreckage. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) of the United States and the Air Accidents Investigation Branch of the United Kingdom are a part of the investigation and we should wait for accurate data soon. Boeing has a heavy stake in the matter and the rumours that are flooding WhatsApp groups are something the company needs to address swiftly, keeping in mind the reliability of the Dreamliner.

Some clues

The only survivor on board the flight had mentioned to some channels that he had heard a loud thud a few seconds after lift off and of lights on board flickering. The deployment of the RAT or ram air turbine on the aircraft, which has been highlighted on some YouTube channel posts based on amateur video footage of the flight, has initiated discussion on dual engine failure due to power malfunctions on the aircraft.

As mentioned earlier, the incidents involving other international airlines flying the Boeing 787s have become a weapon for many to condemn the aircraft. Fortunately for us, while waiting for the DFDR and CVR data to be released to the public – which will be a few years in India due to the bureaucratic stonewalling in removing any adverse indication against government agencies – CCTV footage released by the airport operator (Ahmedabad) – and widely distributed on YouTube – gives us a fairly good idea of what could have happened in those few seconds. The statement issued by officials that the aircraft took up the entire length of the runway for take off is another useful item to use to analyse the accident.

Runway 23 at Ahmedabad is of a length of 3,505 metres (11,499 ft) long. This length is based on the outside temperature being 15° C. On the day of the accident, the temperature reported was 37° C (on a hot day the heated runway surface could be more than 40° C) and the pressure reported was 1000 hPa. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Doc.9157 prescribes corrections for temperatures, and the corrected length in this case would be only 9,068 ft (2,764m) of runway. Engine performance is based on temperature and atmospheric pressure. When data is entered in the aircraft's flight management computer, it will give the crew the correct speed and thrust to be used. All take-offs weights are based on an aircraft losing one engine and climbing out safely, clearing all obstacles in its take-off path. The landing gear has to be retracted as soon as an aircraft takes off and and before reaching 35ft, indicated by an increase in altimeter reading in the cockpit primary flight display. In this case, the landing gear was not retracted and must have created tremendous drag. With a loss of thrust in even one engine, the climb gradient will be severely affected.

> Conducting the investigation into the air crash at Ahmedabad in a professional manner is an important step in reassuring air passengers that air travel is still a safe mode of travel

In the CCTV footage released by the airport operator, the take off acceleration appears normal in the first 18 seconds of the video. As the nose is raised for the take off, one can see the nose swinging to the right, indicating engine failure. If the statement of an official, that the aircraft took off right at the end of the runway, can be correlated with the swing of the plane to the right, it indicates engine failure. Only the DFDR can confirm whether it was normal engine failure or due to a bird hit or debris ingestion. The thud that the surviving passenger mentions could be due to these possibilities. The video frame shows the aircraft inside a cloud of dust. Did it pick up debris from just beyond the end of the runway? ADS-B data indicate a lift off almost at the end of the runway. One can see the exhaust from the left engine causing a dust cloud for another couple of seconds before even that stops. The second engine may have failed due to debris ingestion or bird ingestion – the video clearly shows birds flying in the vicinity. An official's statement that no bird remains were found on the runway is due to the fact that the aircraft may have ingested birds beyond the runway in the overrun area. The frames after that show the aircraft sinking slowly due to a stall and impacting the building before exploding in flames.

A similar incident

On September 29, 1986, there was a similar incident to flight IC571, an Indian Airlines Airbus A300 aircraft with 185 passengers and 11 crew on a flight from Chennai to Mumbai. A report on that accident said: 'The copilot rotated the aircraft and when the aircraft attained 5° to 8° nose up attitude, a loud noise was heard from the right side followed by severe vibration. The commander took over the controls from the copilot at this stage and initiated action to abort the takeoff. Reverse thrust and wheel brakes were applied but the aircraft could not be stopped on the runway and rolled over to kutcha ground. There was no fire but the aircraft was damaged beyond repair. All 196 occupants were evacuated; among them 14 were slightly injured. Probable cause: Wrong decision of the commander to reject the take-off after the aircraft had been rotated for a lift-off, following a loud sound and severe vibrations from right engine due to bird hit.'

The similarities are interesting as a flight safety study. The take-off safety speed is where an engine failure makes a pilot take a decision to continue or reject the take off and stop within the end of the runway. The Indian Airlines pilots were crucified for taking their own decisions which saved the lives of all on board because the decision to reject was after commencing rotation and beyond the take-off safety speed.

In this case, the captain of AI 171, was reaching almost the end of the runway before lifting off. He has been lost along with the rest of his crew, passengers and many others on ground. It is a Hobson's choice where a pilot has to make a decision in a split second.

The long take off run could have been due to overloading. This writer has been told that several passengers have more than the permitted seven kilograms of hand baggage. If one adds the weight of what they buy in duty free and carry with them on board, it would result in additional weight – of at least 10 kg a passenger. When you add two tons of excess weight on a very hot day, that could explain the very long take-off run of the aircraft.

Why did the pilots not recognise the slow acceleration? Why did they forget to retract the landing gear on take off? The runway marking, of the last 2,000 ft, if recognised by the pilots, could have saved lives had take-off been rejected. The DFDR and CVR should provide the answers.

Rebuild the trust

Meanwhile, passengers should know that air travel is one of the safest modes of transport and travel and the Boeing 787 Dreamliner has had a wonderful safety record for 14 years, which is something one can trust. Boeing soiled its hands with the Boeing 737MAX fiasco and the Federal Aviation Administration and the NTSB remained passive. We hope they will all rise to the occasion and rebuild the trust.

India needs to design an inclusive pension system

Neha Lodha

is Senior Resident Fellow, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

Vallari Dronamraju

is Research Fellow, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

Pensions are essential for maintaining economic stability and dignity after retirement. Retirees often face financial instability due to reduced earning capacity, rising health-care costs, and inflation, necessitating a safety net in the form of pensions.

The Economic Survey 2025-26 reports that Indian pension assets amount to just 17% of GDP, compared with up to 80% in many advanced economies. Currently, only around 12% of India's workforce is covered by formal pension schemes. The coverage is also disproportionate, with public sector and organised private sector workers being protected under multiple parallel schemes. In contrast, the only protection for the informal sector is voluntary adoption under the National Pension System and Atal Pension Yojana. These two schemes accounted for about 5.3 % of the total population in FY24.

Integrate the informal sector

Notably, almost 85% of the informal labour force is generating more than half of the country's GDP. As markets evolve, the gig economy will only expand further. Their exclusion from the pension framework is not only a policy gap but also a looming financial crisis in the making. By 2050, India's old-age dependency ratio will increase to 30%. Consequently, India's path to achieve developed economy status by 2047 will depend, in no small measure, on our efforts to secure the future against old-age poverty.

Currently, the expansion of pension coverage is hindered by issues that are linked to scalability, sensitisation, and sustainability.

The primary reason for the exclusion of informal workers from the pension framework is the fragmented nature of pension schemes. Although the government has introduced social security for gig workers, funded in part by aggregators, this only addresses a fraction of the informal sector and adds another parallel scheme to an already complex web. On the contrary, most mature economies have a well-structured pension ecosystem with multiple tiers that cater to the diverse needs of the entire population. For example, Japan operates a mandatory flat-rate contributory scheme for all residents between the ages 20 to 59 years, encompassing the self-employed, farmers, public and private employees, and their dependents. Similarly, New Zealand offers a universal, flat-rate public pension to residents aged 65 years and over, subject to a 10-year residency requirement; roughly 40% rely on it as their main income during old age.

> As India undergoes a demographic shift, policymakers must plan a truly inclusive pension system

As a large proportion of the current pension coverage for the informal sector is voluntary, the next roadblock in expansion is a lack of awareness. As financial literacy in India remains low, efforts at sensitisation need to start at the grass-root level. For example, the financial literacy policy in Australia enables the school curriculum to incorporate a component on superannuation planning.

In the Netherlands, occupational pension funds provide annual disclosures of accrued pension rights to active participants. The United Kingdom runs an opt-out pension scheme for its employees, which promotes participation by default. Sensitisation is also linked with increasing accessibility of pension products, such as in Nigeria, which has invested heavily in a digital pension infrastructure to increase the reach of its pension system.

Ensuring sustainability and liquidity

Finally, sustaining the financial health and liquidity of pension funds are critical to securing sufficient resources for a dignified retirement. The Mercer CFA Institute Global Pension Index 2024 Report assigned an overall value of 44% to the Indian pension system, with a sharp decline in the adequacy ratio.

Notably, China, which performed on the index, is currently facing challenges in maintaining its public pension system without support from private pension funds. Thus, support from private funds is important in developing a robust market. The Netherlands, Denmark and Australia also rely on private funds to support the public pension systems. In the United States, pension fund investments are secured through targeted debt funds to ensure reliable returns.

A three-tiered framework

To address the problems of scalability, sensitisation and sustainability, at the outset, India should harmonise fragmented schemes into a tiered system overseen by a unified regulator. In an ideal design, the first tier would comprise a mandatory basic pension guarantee, offering a flat-rate contributory pension for all, irrespective of employment status. The next tier would cover occupational pensions that may be mandatory, or on an opt-out basis, establishing employer-based schemes with auto-enrolment, subject to minimum contribution standards. The final tier would include voluntary pension savings, incentivised through tax benefits, market-linked returns, and flexible products to supplement retirement income.

In addition, measures such as targeted financial literacy campaigns at the school and college levels, user-friendly digital enrolment platforms, and mandated annual disclosures of pension entitlements can significantly enhance public participation and trust in the system. Further, robust investment regulations and oversight are necessary to monitor pension fund performance and ensure sufficient liquidity to meet long-term pension obligations.

As India undergoes a demographic shift, a minimum pension guarantee and a well-structured pension system for everyone, including informal workers, will ensure basic financial security during retirement. Policymakers must act now to design a truly inclusive pension system for all, regardless of their occupational status.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

War and worker welfare

In the wake of escalating tensions between Iran and Israel, the Indian government ought to ensure the safety of the thousands of Indian workers, especially in Israel. The report, "India moving citizens in Iran, Israel to safer places", read in conjunction with the Editorial, "Escalation spiral" (both June 17) gave readers clear insights into the conflict. With thousands of skilled workers from India in the region, their well-being should be the priority.

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

Biased channels?

The programming by certain Malayalam news channels, on Israel's missile strike on Iran's national television headquarters, might reflect a flawed and biased media narrative. These channels, in their eagerness to portray Iran as a perpetual victim, could be ignoring the broader geopolitical realities and the provocations that lead to such actions. The reporting paints a skewed picture of a complex issue versus India's strategic interests and relations in the region.

K.A. Solaman,
S.L. Puram, Alappuzha, Kerala

Orchestrated campaign

While U.S. President Donald Trump seems to be attempting a diplomatic role, we must delve deeper into the broader implications of the U.S.'s actions ('World' page – "Where does Trump stand on the Israel-Iran conflict?", June 17). It appears that this entire situation is a carefully orchestrated operation against Iran. Additionally, is Mr. Trump attempting to cast himself as a victim in this complex geopolitical landscape?

Saniya Ahmed,
Bengaluru

Students face disadvantage

I am writing this letter as a concerned student who passed Class 12 (CBSE) and is now applying for undergraduate admission through Kerala University's Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP). Kerala University follows a normalisation procedure that converts the CBSE Class 12 marks (out of 500) to a 1,200-mark scale using the formula, 'Total marks divided by 500, multiplied with 1200'. An additional two times of the desired subject mark is then added to compute the final index mark out of 1,400. However, this procedure results in a significant mark loss for high-performing CBSE students, while many Kerala State Board students who write their exams for a total of 1,200 marks retain their full scores without loss. The disparity worsens with the application of grace marks. There has to be a review.

Abhyudaya N.S.,
Thiruvananthapuram

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

The third nuclear age

Priyanjali Malik

Author of India's Nuclear Debate: Exceptionalism and the Bomb

The world has entered a third nuclear age. Israel's bombing of Iran, supposedly to address the nuclear threat posed by the regime, contravenes diplomatic norms, tests international law to breaking point, and goes against the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which seeks to control proliferation through negotiations and treaty obligations. Yet no major power has criticised Israel's actions.

After the first nuclear age of the Cold War and its terrifying bipolar logic of mutually assured destruction between the U.S. and the USSR, followed by the relative optimism of the post-Cold War second nuclear age that assumed nukes could be pushed into the background until somebody figured out how to achieve total nuclear disarmament, we appear to have entered a third age where nuclear weapons and deterrence are back in focus.

Attitudes towards proliferation and deterrence began to harden with China's nuclear build up in the mid-2010s, which coincided with deteriorating relations between Russia and the West. Since then, Russia has threatened nuclear use over Ukraine, Europe is reconsidering how to deter Russia in the wake of waning American support for NATO, and some, including U.S. President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, perceive a nuclear element to the recent hostilities between India and Pakistan. However, it would be a mistake to think that the third age reprises the first: this one is messier and more unpredictable.

The first nuclear age

The first nuclear age was consumed by superpower rivalry, epitomised by massive American and Soviet nuclear arsenals on hair-trigger alert. The other three nuclear powers played supporting parts as the superpowers first furiously increased their arsenals and then sought to create a nuclear regime that could accommodate their rivalry and achieve stability at lower levels of nuclear possession. After negotiating the NPT, the USSR and the U.S. engaged in bilateral arms control treaties that required reductions in their stockpiles from a peak of almost 70,000 warheads between them. The last of these, the New START, which limits deployed warheads to 1,550 each, expires in February 2026 and there are no negotiations for a successor treaty or extension.

The second nuclear age

At the same time, Russia and the U.S. are modernising their arsenals. America's 30-year, $1.5-2 trillion upgrade started under President Barack Obama soon after he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2009 in part for his efforts "to create a world free from nuclear weapons". China (at 600 warheads) is believed to have the fastest growing arsenal. Even if the U.S. and Russia were willing to discuss arms control, China's nuclear ambitions are likely to overshadow the conversation.

These nuclear modernisation programmes began during the second nuclear age. A negotiated test ban and talk of a fissile ban treaty were attempts to freeze the status quo and prevent new nuclear entrants. Even India and Pakistan's nuclear tests did little to change the idea that nuclear use was beyond the pale. It was the age of lofty proclamations of Global Zero (though Mr. Obama was quick to caveat his 2009 speech and say it might not happen in his lifetime) – a concept being valiantly promoted by the signatories of the Nuclear Ban Treaty that was negotiated in 2017 without a single nuclear weapons state supporting it.

In hindsight, it was an age of cynicism. Despite hailing Global Zero, the overriding achievement was the extension in perpetuity of the NPT and with it, the status of the five nuclear weapons states. It made a mockery of the NPT's Article 6, which called on nuclear possessors to "pursue negotiations in good faith" to achieving nuclear disarmament. Instead, extension of their status combined with counter-proliferation appeared to be making the world safe for their continued possession of nukes. This age *normalised* nuclear possession. We are now reaping the dividends of that, as possession appears to be yielding to nuclear use.

A messier age

The third nuclear age is messier because the renewed salience of nukes is superimposed on a global order in flux. China views its aggressive nuclear build up as providing a "strategic counterbalance" to shape the global balance of power. The U.S.'s apparent retreat under Mr. Trump has prompted NATO's European allies to look to France and Britain to deter a resurgent Russia. Britain is reconsidering an airborne deterrent 25 years after scrapping it and has budgeted £15 billion for warhead development and modernisation in its 2025 Strategic Defence Review. France is modernising and reopening old bases; it may consider basing nuclear assets with its neighbours, at their request. After the consolidation of the 1980s and '90s, nuclear weapons are moving out once again. Last year, Vladimir Putin transferred tactical nuclear weapons to Belarus.

Overshadowing these developments is the real fear of nuclear use. During the Cold War, the risk was that the two adversaries could slide into a nuclear war through accident or miscalculation. Deterrence was the ultimate guarantor of the status quo. However, Mr. Putin's nuclear threats over Ukraine show that nuclear weapons are being used to change the status quo. He is believed to have contemplated some nuclear use in 2022.

After Hiroshima, nuclear deterrence has been based on nukes being the final resort. If thinking on deterrence shifts in this nuclear age at a time of global realignment and potential instability, then we are entering a period of self-inflicted nuclear insecurity.

If thinking on deterrence shifts in this age of global realignment and potential instability, we are entering a period of self-inflicted nuclear insecurity

The future of Abujhmad

What will the 'liberation' of Abujhmad from the Maoists look like?

STATE OF PLAY

Shubhranshu Choudhary

Abujhmad, a dense and nearly impenetrable forest region, is the only largely unsurveyed area in the country. Even its name suggests the difficulty of the terrain: Abujhmad means 'incomprehensible plateau' in Hindi. According to the 2011 Census, the area is home to 40,000 residents, who are Abujhmadiya tribal people. This is one of the seven Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups in Chhattisgarh. The Abujhmadiyas are sub-tribes of the Gond tribe. Abujhmadiyas say that Abujhmad is a Gondi word that translates into 'sal forest'.

In colonial India, the British categorised some areas of the country as 'excluded areas' and some others as 'partially excluded areas' under the Government of India Act, 1935. These areas were left untouched. Abujhmad was an 'excluded area' although the British did conduct a land survey there in 1873. In independent India, the fruits of development did not reach Abujhmad. The region has therefore not seen the negative consequences of development either. Maoists took advantage of the lack of developmment and made Abujhmad their unofficial headquarters. They termed it a "liberated zone".

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has said that the Maoists would be eliminated by March 2026. So Abujhmad is about to be liberated again, but this time from the Maoists. What will this liberation look like? The idea is to build new roads, police stations, schools, hospitals, and mobile towers. The work on some of these has already started. Over the last few years, iron ore is being mined from the periphery areas of Abujhmad. Now, it is set to happen inside Abujhmad as well. But will the law be followed?

The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, gives special rights to forest-dwelling communities. In 2019, when Abujhmadiyas made efforts to apply for habitat rights, the Maoists threatened the head of their samaj with death. The State government also did not cooperate with the tribal people. Will that change now?

The Abujhmad forest area is larger than Goa. It is spread across three districts in Chhattisgarh – Narayanpur, Bijapur, and Dantewada – and one of Maharashtra – Gadchiroli. As part of its anti-Maoist strategy, the Indian Army once planned a manoeuvring range in Abujhmad. This plan has not been abandoned yet.

Abujhmad also produces what is possibly the purest form of organic food. Will there be efforts to leverage this unique opportunity? Or will the region be flooded by modern fertilizers and pesticides with the help of the new roads and markets? In the sal forest of Abujhmad, mahua trees flourish. Like many other Adivasi women, Abujhmadiya women also collect mahua flowers and make liquor out of it. Will there be efforts to establish an Abujhmad Mahua Union Limited, akin to Amul, so that Abujhmadiya mahua liquor can be sold worldwide and the profit can go to Abujhmadiya mahua collectors? If liberation means only opening a mahua liquor factory, that may not help the Abujhmadiyas much.

CGnet Swara, an NGO I founded, is trying to start a platform called Abujhmad AI-R (Artificial Intelligence Radio). This will have an AI agent which will ask hundreds of Abujhmadiyas about their problems and what development they wish to see in their region. A radio programme will be made from this and taken to government officials. Will the officials listen to their voices?

Deep inside Abujhmad, an Adivasi Maoist once told me, "We are not 'terrorists'; we are journalists like you. We use guns to make loud noises like Bhagat Singh because the media does not listen to us. Can you come up with a media that is not owned by a few and gives equal respect to all?"

As per the Gondi religion, the journey of mankind started from a hill inside Abujhmad called Verwakot. When the world got inundated, only Verwakot was not submerged. Believers say that the first Shiva, who they also call Badadev, survived by floating on a Tumba, or a boat made of big bottle gourd. According to these oral Gondi stories, there were 84 Shivas who they call Shambhu Shek. Can habitat rights give Abujhmadiyas the right to say 'no' if there is a proposal to mine Verwakot? Will the rights of the people be respected in liberated Abujhmad? These are questions to ponder.

Shubhranshu Choudhary is a journalist

Despite deportations and visa denials, Indians stand by Trump

Indians continue to show strong support for the U.S. President even as many countries lose faith in him

DATA POINT

Vignesh Radhakrishnan

Indians continue to hold a relatively high opinion of U.S. President Donald Trump and his ability to handle immigration policies, even though confidence in his leadership has declined sharply or remained low among people of other countries. This strong support comes despite incidents of forced deportations of Indians and a rise in visa denials for Indian students. Pew Survey data also shows that a smaller share of Indians considers him "dangerous" or "arrogant" compared to those of other countries.

In the survey conducted between February and April, only 27% of Indians said that they had "no confidence" in Mr. Trump to handle the country's immigration policies. This is the third lowest share among the 24 countries surveyed **(Chart 1)**. Notably, 29% of Indians declined to offer an opinion on this issue – the highest such share by a wide margin. The remaining 45% expressed confidence in Mr. Trump's handling of immigration policies.

The opinions in India were recorded in the same month as well as in the months following the deportation of about 1,000 Indians by the U.S. In fact, in February, the first month of Mr. Trump's presidency, U.S. visas issued to Indian students declined by 30%. This drop was much steeper than what was recorded for Chinese, Vietnamese, or Japanese students. In the survey, 59% of Japanese respondents expressed no confidence in Mr. Trump's ability to handle immigration policies, while 87% of Mexicans believed so.

More recently, the Trump administration paused the scheduling of new visa interviews globally and expanded its vetting of foreign students' social media accounts. The U.S. government also terminated or revoked the visas of more than 1,000 international students – many of them Indians.

In the survey, 53% of Indians expressed confidence in Mr. Trump's ability of handling climate change issues. This was the third highest share among the 24 countries surveyed, behind Kenyans and Nigerians **(Chart 2)**. This answer came a month after Mr. Trump signed an executive order to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris Agreement.

Only 34% of Indians described Mr. Trump as "arrogant" – the second lowest share among the 24 countries surveyed, and well below the 24-country median of 80% **(Chart 3)**. Similarly, only 36% of Indians considered him "dangerous". This was again the second lowest share; the median was 65%. Half the Indian respondents said Mr. Trump is "able to understand complex problems". This was among the highest shares across the countries surveyed. The share of Indians who described him as "honest" was 50% – the third highest share after Nigerians and Kenyans; the median was 28%.

Over 90% of people in Canada, Australia, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Spain considered Mr. Trump "arrogant" and over 70% of them said he was "dangerous". In Sweden, only 19% of people said that he understands complex problems and only 20% in Germany said that he is honest.

Also, 52% of Indians have confidence in Mr. Trump of doing the right thing in world affairs. This is the fourth highest share behind Israelis, Nigerians, and Kenyans. Just 23% of Indians said they have no confidence in Mr. Trump to do the right thing; this is the second lowest share behind Nigerians.

In the Netherlands and France, only 22% of the respondents said they had confidence in Mr. Trump's ability to do the right thing. In Sweden and Mexico, over 85% of respondents said they had no confidence in him to do the right thing.

In Trump, Indians trust

The data for the charts were sourced from the 2025 Global Attitudes Survey conducted by the Pew Research Center. Results for the survey are based on a mix of telephone, face-to-face and online interviews. Survey results are based on national samples

PHOTO: VIJAY SONEJI

Chart 1: The % of respondents who have confidence/no confidence in Trump to handle immigration policy

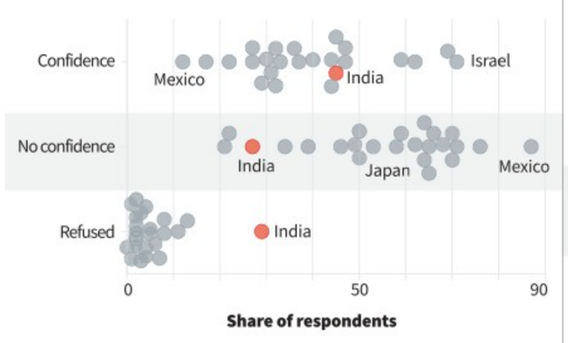


Chart 2: The % of respondents who have confidence/no confidence in Trump to handle climate change

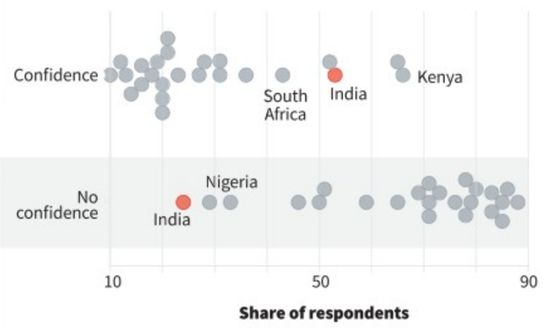


Chart 3: The % who say Trump is …

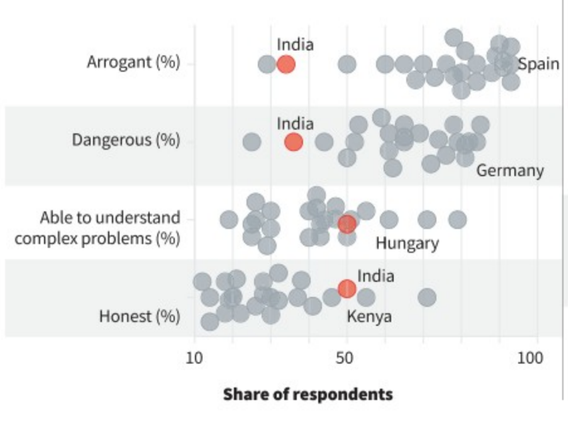
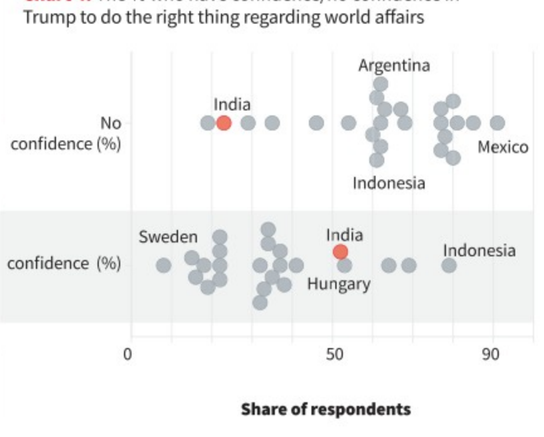


Chart 4: The % who have confidence/no confidence in Trump to do the right thing regarding world affairs



This analysis draws on nationally representative surveys of 28,333 adults across 24 countries (not including the U.S.) conducted by the Pew Research Center in the Jan. 8-April 26, 2025 period

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 18, 1975

West Asia settlement: Kissinger's hope

Washington, June 17: The Secretary of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger, said yesterday he was hopeful that a peace settlement could be reached in West Asia without another war.

"War would be a catastrophe for all of the parties," said Dr. Kissinger. "It would settle none of the issues before them. At the end of it they would be exactly at the point they have reached now -- which is how to negotiate progress towards a lasting peace," he said.

Answering questions before a meeting of the Public Broadcasters Service, Dr. Kissinger pledged that the Ford Administration would make a "major effort" to achieve a settlement, either through interim agreements or through an overall approach.

Twice in his brief remarks on the subject Mr. Kissinger referred to renewed war, indicating that he was running into difficulties in trying to resolve differences between Israel and Egypt on a possible Shia agreement.

Dr. Kissinger conferred in New York on Sunday with the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Rahin, and is preparing for a visit here by the Syrian Foreign Minister, Mr. Abdel Halim Khaddam on Friday.

In reaffirming U.S. intentions to oversee a West Asia peace settlement, Dr. Kissinger said: "I am hopeful it can be done without war."

"We were also concerned that a collapse of South Korea would have a disastrous impact on Japan," Dr. Kissinger said.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 18, 1925

All-India chess

"The Stateman's" Simla correspondent wired to that paper on June 15: The All-India Chess Championship tournament has come to a successful conclusion at Chail. It is considered an important event in the history of chess in India, both from the point of view of the number of players engaged, and the high quality of games exhibited, which showed that chess players in India, given time and opportunity, can hold their own against the international players of the West. All the entrants were guests of His Highness, the Maharaja of Patiala, who distributed the prizes to the winners.

From Page One

Will highlight Global South at G7 meet: Modi

The U.S. President said that it was a "very big mistake" to remove Russia from the grouping after it annexed Crimea. "I think you would not have a war right now if you had Russia in, and you would not have a war right now if Trump were President four years ago," Mr. Trump said. He argued that exclusion of Russian President Vladimir Putin from the G7 high table "makes life more complicated".

Since the beginning of the Ukraine crisis in February 2022, India has been insisting that the war in Europe has disturbed the economies of the Global South by triggering a commodities crisis.

Mr. Modi's meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy will be watched closely as the meeting will be held ahead of the expected visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin of Russia to India for the India-Russia annual summit.

Earlier in May, President Putin accepted Mr Modi's invite to visit New Delhi for the annual summit. "The Indian leader confirmed his invitation to the Russian president to visit India for an annual bilateral summit. The invitation was gratefully accepted," the Kremlin said in a statement in May first week. The Modi-Zelenskyy discussion is likely to add to the context of the India-Russia discussion that will taken place during the upcoming India visit of Russian President Sergey Lavrov.

The G7 Outreach Summit of this year being hosted by Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney is themed around three core pillars of "Protecting our communities around the world", "Building energy security and accelerating the digital transition" and "securing the partnerships of the future".

16 AI flights cancelled; no major issues found

The DGCA has also emphasised passenger facilitation and timely dissemination of information to passengers.

On Monday, three flights were delayed due to either a technical snag being identified or additional checks ordered by the DGCA, resulting in delays longer than anticipated due to restrictions on night flying at European airports.

On the status of the enhanced inspection, the DGCA said the process will be completed on two Boeing 787s on Tuesday followed by one on Wednesday.

Two aircraft that were already grounded will undergo specific checks only once they are made serviceable. Four other aircraft are undergoing scheduled major checks at a maintenance, repair and overhaul facility, the DGCA said.

Can't allow mob rule: SC on *Thug Life* row

The top court directed the State to file its response by Wednesday and scheduled the case for hearing on Thursday.

Mr. Velan, for the petitioner, had said the move to appeal the top court was necessitated by the fact that the Karnataka High Court had "distressingly appeared to prioritise appeasement" in proceedings seeking the judicial protection of the fundamental right to free speech and expression.

"Instead of a clear directive to the State to stop the illegal threats and protect a certified film's exhibition – fundamental to restoring law and order – the discussion reportedly focused on whether Mr. Kamal Haasan should apologise to the very fringe elements intimidating him and threatening public order. This effective endorsement of coercive censorship by suggesting compromise with perpetrators makes the High Court pathway currently ineffective for securing justice, compelling this urgent appeal in the Supreme Court as the ultimate guardian of the Constitution," the petition had submitted.

The petition also questioned the Karnataka government's "flagrant failure" to maintain law and order in the State and protect constitutional freedoms. It said the "unconstitutional extra-judicial ban" in Karnataka stems not from any lawful process but from a deliberate campaign of terror and a chilling call for a repeat of past anti-Tamil riots.

'Film must be shown'

"Let there be a debate if someone makes a statement. There would be something wrong in a system in which one person makes a statement and everybody believes it as gospel truth," Justice Manmohan said.

"We are not passing an order to the people to come and watch the movie... But the film must be shown," he observed.

The Bench also transferred a petition filed by Mr. Haasan in the Karnataka High Court to the Supreme Court. Justice Bhuyan said the High Court had no business, on an earlier occasion, to ask Mr. Haasan to apologise for his statement.

The court said it would intervene strongly in the case in its role as not only the custodian of the rule of law but also the guardian of fundamental rights.

Justice Bhuyan referred to the case of the Marathi play *Me Nathuram Godse Boltoy* in the 1990s.

"There were critical references in it about none other than the Father of the Nation. The Maharashtra government banned it. The Bombay High Court set aside the ban to safeguard the right to have a different view," Justice Bhuyan related in court.

Army chief hosts two-day conclave with predecessors

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Chief of the Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi, and his predecessors started a two-day structured interaction, "Chiefs' Chintan", here on Tuesday.

"Being held in the aftermath of Operation Sindoor, the conclave is aimed at providing a platform to leverage the institutional knowledge and experience of the former CsOAS. General Dwivedi welcomed the former Chiefs and underlined their continued engagement in shaping the transformation and future direction of the Army," the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

A key highlight of the event was a comprehensive operational briefing on Operation Sindoor, including the synergised conduct of operations with the Air Force and the Navy.

The issues discussed during the conclave included technological initiatives, the Army's contributions to the goal of a developed India, and reforms in human resource and veteran welfare.

Working with India to help evacuate those waiting to leave: Israeli envoy

Reuven Azar says New Delhi has expressed concern about regional stability; he conveys Israel's 'appreciation' for India's decision to break with other members of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation for a statement condemning Israel's action

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Israel is coordinating with the Indian Embassy in Tel Aviv to help those wanting to leave the country amid air strike exchanges between Iran and Israel, Israel's Ambassador to India Reuven Azar said on Tuesday. While India has so far not announced a plan to evacuate most citizens from either country, the government is encouraging them to move away from major cities that will face the brunt of the military action.

Iran has retaliated to Israel's strikes, on Iranian nuclear installations on June 13 and other military targets, with a barrage of strikes on several Israel cities, ports, military and research installations.

"We are now starting to organise through [Israel's] Ministry of Transport, evacuation commutes for diplomats and foreign citizens that want to leave. There are a few options for this, both terrestrial and maritime, and we are discussing these [with Indian authorities as well]," Mr. Azar told presspersons here. According to officials, the land routes via the Allenby Bridge/King Hussein Bridge to Jordan, as well as over the Eilat-Taba border crossing to Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt are operational, while cruise ships to Cyprus from Israeli ports at Haifa and Ashdod may be another possibility.

> We are going to continue our dialogue with the International Atomic Energy Agency in order to assess the situation and see how we can continue attacking, because we have to attack, but at the same time minimise casualties. We are now starting to organise through Israel's Ministry of Transport, evacuation for foreign citizens
>
> **REUVEN AZAR**
> Israel's Ambassador to India

IAEA has flagged serious implications for nuclear safety, security and safeguards

In a briefing detailing Israel's claims that it attacked Iran "pre-emptively" to avoid an "imminent" attack by Iranian forces that were poised to develop nuclear weapons, Mr. Azar said the Israeli government had reached out to partners, including India, to explain its actions.

In a post about his phone call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he had shared India's "concerns" with him and called for the early restoration of peace and stability in the region.

Asked if New Delhi had expressed specific concerns with regard to the attacks on Iranian nuclear installations, including the facilities at Natanz and Isfahan that the IAEA had criticised, Mr. Azar said India's concerns were restricted to stability in the region.

"For a country like India that is a rapidly rising power, any disturbance to world peace is detrimental to the national interest. So it's very natural that India will be concerned. We understand those concerns and try to ameliorate what we can," Mr. Azar said. "We are going to continue our dialogue with the IAEA in order to assess the situation and see how we can continue attacking, because we have to attack, but at the same time to minimise casualties."

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Rafael Grossi said the strikes were "deeply concerning", adding that "nuclear facilities must never be attacked, regardless of the context or circumstances"."Such attacks have serious implications for nuclear safety, security and safeguards, as well as regional and international peace and security," Mr. Grossi said.

Mr. Azar expressed Israel's "appreciation" for India's decision to break with other members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation for a statement that had condemned Israel's attacks.

He dismissed questions about whether the Israeli government had lost bipartisan support in India, given criticism from the Congress about its bombardment of Gaza and the attack on Iran.

"I engage equally with people from all parties and all regions of India," Mr. Azar said, adding that he remains in touch with "very prominent people" at the Congress party. "Sometimes people are more critical of you. It doesn't mean that they are not your friends. They have concerns," he added.

Indians caught in crossfire in the warzones of Iran and Israel desperate to return home

Alisha Dutta
NEW DELHI

With the Israel-Iran conflict entering its fifth day on Tuesday, Indian citizens – from workers in Israel to students and pilgrims in Iran – caught in the crossfire are distressed, with many desperate to return home.

While on Tuesday 100 Indian students reached Armenia to fly back to New Delhi on Wednesday, Indian citizens in the warzone told *The Hindu* that the air strikes and missile attacks have left them scarred.

From a safe house in Iran's Qom, Hania, a fourth-year MBBS student at Tehran University of Medical Sciences, recalled seeing the men's dormitory being hit by an Israeli air strike. "The glass windows broke and the hit injured at least two Indian students who were in the dormitory," said Ms. Hania, who is from Jammu and Kashmir.

Trying times: People stand on a rooftop amid billowing smoke following an overnight Israeli strike in Tehran, Iran. AFP

After receiving instructions from the Indian embassy, Ms. Haniya and her peers took a cab to reach Qom, around 180 km from Tehran. Ms. Hania said she is waiting for the Indian embassy to evacuate her and other fellow Indians.

Mohammed Ali, 40, a Noida resident who had gone on a pilgrimage with 40 others to Mashhad, Iran, on June 3, said that there is no clarity on what to do next and no information on how long Qom will be safe.

"How long can we wait inside a room? We do not know if we should stay put here (Qom) or arrange for ways to reach the Armenian border," said Mr. Ali.

In north Iran, at least 130 students from Tehran University have been sheltered in a safe house, with 15 in each room. Speaking to *The Hindu*, Abrar, a fourth-year MBBS student, said that at least three students were injured in Israel's airstrike, and barring first aid, they did not get any medical treatment. "The students need surgical attention. But because of the war here, such injuries are not being given attention," he said.

Situation in Israel

In Israel, Indian nationals engaged at construction sites for the past year are still going to work but are worried about the missile attacks.

"You could be doing your work at the construction site, and when you look up, you either see a missile being intercepted or one being launched. These have become part of our lives," said Dinesh Malik, 38, a construction worker from Haryana in Rishon LeZion, Israel.

Tilak Raj, 40, another construction worker from Haryana, said that on the day of the air strike on Tel Aviv, all he could do was think about his family. "It felt like the entire place would blow up and all I wanted at that moment was to see my family," said Mr. Raj.

He and other colleagues were shifted to a site in Or Akiva, almost 50 km from Tel Aviv. But that has not brought him any comfort, for every time he spots a flare in the sky, a chill runs down his spine, and he fears the worst.

'Maoists killed three villagers in Bijapur to create fear'

Shubhomoy Sikdar
NARAYANPUR

Maoists killed three civilians in an interior village in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh on Tuesday, the police said.

In a statement issued in the evening, the police said the incident took place in Peddakorma (Nayapara) village, and it was meant to create fear in the minds of people. "Information has been received that three residents of Peddakorma (Nayapara) village of Bijapur district were strangled to death by Maoists... with the aim of creating an atmosphere of fear and terror among the villagers. Investigation is being conducted by the police to confirm the information received," read the police statement.

Army team leaves for India-France joint exercise

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

An Army contingent left for France on Tuesday to participate in the eighth edition of the India-French joint military exercise named 'Shakti', which will be conducted at Camp Larzac, La Cavalerie in France from June 18 to July 1.

The Indian contingent comprises 90 personnel, primarily from a battalion of the Jammu and Kashmir Rifles.

The French contingent comprises 90 personnel from the 13th Foreign Legion Half-Brigade (13th DBLE), the Defence Ministry said.

The exercise is a biennial training engagement between the Indian and French Armies, aimed at enhancing interoperability, operational coordination, and military-to-military connect. The training will be conducted in semi-urban terrain.

Home Ministry to monitor career path of ex-Agniveers

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

With a year to go for the first batch of Agniveers to retire from military service under the Agnipath scheme, the Union Home Ministry has been tasked with coordinating activities for "further progression" of their careers.

A portal will be launched to monitor their career prospects after four years of service in the armed forces.

A government source said the Home Ministry would coordinate with various Ministries and departments of the Government of India and the State governments to facilitate the career progression of Agniveers.

"After serving four years in armed forces, 75% of Agniveers will exit. For coordinating and monitoring further progression of ex-Agniveers, there will be an online portal," the source added.

Future tense: In the current scheme, 75% of Agniveers will exit after four years of service in the armed forces. EMMANUAL YOGINI

On Tuesday, the Cabinet Secretariat, through a notification signed by President Droupadi Murmu, amended the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961 and allocated the work on progression of former Agniveers to the Ministry.

The Agnipath scheme was launched on June 14, 2022 to recruit soldiers, airmen and sailors in the three Services for a period of four years.

The recruitment policy met with violent protests in 2022 and was one of the major issues during the 2024 Lok Sabha election. Following protests, the Ministry announced that 10% of all vacancies in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) will be reserved for the Agniveers who have completed their service. Defence Ministry sources said they were in process of reviewing the scheme.

The first batch of Agniveers will be eligible for recruitment in the CAPFs such as the Central industrial Security Force, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Sashastra Seema Bal, and Assam Rifles in 2026.

Tour operators meet J&K CM, discuss ways to promote tourism

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A 30-member delegation from the Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) on Tuesday met Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to discuss revival of tourism in the State which has been affected following the Pahalgam terror attacks.

Mr. Abdullah assured the delegation of the safety and security of the tourists and urged them to spread the word that Kashmir was safe to travel to.

"It was important to assess the ground situation and during our three-day visit, we found the State as safe as any other place. Besides, we have assurances from the government. I am sure tourist flow would be back to normal in times to come," IATO President Ravi Gosain said.

The IATO had said that there was nearly 40% cancellations of tours following the Pahalgam incident.

APPEAL

Sowmitha is 3-years-old suffering from "B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia". She needs Chemotherapy and Radiation at **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research** Centre, Madurai. The total expenditure is Rs.8,00,000/-. Her family is very poor and cannot afford this huge cost. Please help her to undergo the treatment. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/M.O/NEFT Transfer & Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C.No: 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT. Your e-mail ID is requested.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph:044-42137401/31523781/7338978027.**

E-Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.

Website: WWW.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

WWS

Why PM silent on outreach of U.S. to Pak., asks Congress

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday questioned the silence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on the U.S. reaching out to Pakistan while referring to Pakistani Army chief Asim Munir's visit to the country.

In a post on X, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said: "So now it can no longer be denied by the drumbeaters of the PM and the BJP's troll army. The man whose incendiary, inflammatory, and provocative remarks were directly linked to the Pahalgam terror attacks is now officially in Washington DC."

"The question we had asked earlier needs to be repeated: what is America up to by hosting Asim Munir in this manner? Why are the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister silent on this outrageous American outreach to Pakistan?" the Congress leader said.

Mr. Ramesh also took a swipe at Mr. Modi after U.S. President Donald Trump left the G-7 Summit in Canada a day earlier, saying this is a "setback for self-styled Vishwaguru's huglomacy".

DNA tests identify 177 victims in Ahmedabad plane crash

Identification process continues as forensic team expects to complete DNA profiling of all victims by today; officials have collected 250 DNA samples from both flight victims and ground casualties

Abhinay Deshpande
MUMBAI

DNA profiling has so far helped identify 162 victims of the June 12 Air India crash, with the authorities handing 120 bodies to their families, Gujarat Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi said Tuesday.

Solemn moment: Pushkaraj Sabharwal, father of Captain Sumeet Sabharwal, breaks down during the funeral of the deceased Air India pilot in Mumbai on Tuesday. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Official toll not yet out

The announcement comes even as the State government continues to withhold an official death toll from the June 12 disaster.

"Till Tuesday night, DNA samples of 177 crash victims had been successfully matched, and 120 bodies handed over to the respective families. Remaining mortal remains will be released soon [after identification]," Mr. Sanghavi announced.

The massive identification effort continues at the Ahmedabad Civil Hospital, where Medical Superintendent Rakesh Joshi confirmed the forensic team expects to complete DNA profiling of all victims by Wednesday morning.

The authorities have collected 250 DNA samples from both flight victims and ground casualties. The forensic process matches victims' DNA with samples provided by relatives – a crucial step when visual identification is not possible.

All eyes on black box

Meanwhile, Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol said that the high-level committee on the investigation would submit its crash report within three months. "The investigation is ongoing, and multiple factors are being examined," he said.

Mr. Mohol expressed hope that the aircraft's black box, containing the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder, will provide critical clues about the cause of the disaster. The black box has already been recovered and is being analysed.

High-powered panel

"Many details will emerge once the black box data is fully extracted. A committee headed by Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan has been constituted, and its report will be finalised within three months," the Minister said.

The final rites of Captain Sumeet Sabharwal, the pilot-in-command of the plane, were held in Mumbai on Tuesday.

The doomed Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, carrying 242 people to London, crashed into a medical college hostel shortly after take-off from the Ahmedabad airport on June 12. While 241 aboard perished, one passenger survived. The impact also killed several people on the ground, including four medical students.

India stands 'isolated' over abstention on Gaza ceasefire in the UNGA, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Expressing concern over the flare-up in West Asia after escalation of the Israel-Iran conflict, the Congress on Tuesday urged the Union government to work with partner countries to ensure an immediate ceasefire in the region.

"India should work with partners to bring an immediate halt to hostilities as any escalation can destabilise the entire region," Congress Working Committee member Anand Sharma, who heads the party's foreign affairs department, told *The Hindu*.

Anand Sharma

Mr. Sharma, who was part of the Narendra Modi government's diplomatic outreach in Operation Sindoor and the Pahalgam terror attack, mounted a scathing criticism of India's abstention from a UN vote on a motion for the protection of civilians and upholding legal and humanitarian obligations in Gaza. "It is a humanitarian catastrophe that has unfolded in Gaza, where people are facing collective retribution for their identity. It is indefensible that the land of Mahatma Gandhi doesn't stand for peace," Mr. Sharma said.

In fact, the abstention at the UN was cited as yet another example of "weak diplomacy" by India. Congress general secretary (organisation) and Lok Sabha member from Kerala's Alappuzha seat, K.C. Venugopal, said India stood isolated among multilateral fora such as BRICS – a grouping of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – and SCO or Shanghai Cooperation Organisation because of its stance.

"India has always stood for peace, justice, and human dignity. But today, India stands alone as the only country in South Asia, BRICS, and SCO to abstain on a UNGA resolution demanding a ceasefire in Gaza," he said on X last Saturday.

Terming India's stance "shameful and disappointing" in a X post the same day, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Lok Sabha member from Kerala's Wayanad said, "60,000 people, mostly women and children, have been killed already, an entire population is being confined and starved to death, and we are refusing to take a stand". "This is a tragic reversal of our anti-colonial legacy. In fact, not only are we standing silent as Mr. [Benjamin] Netanyahu annihilates an entire nation, we are cheering on as his government attacks Iran and assassinates its leadership in flagrant violation of its sovereignty and complete contravention of all international norms," Ms. Vadra added.

Pawan Khera, who heads the party's media and publicity wing, countered criticism from some quarters that Kerala's politics may determine the position of some of their MPs from the State. "Congress's position on Israel-Gaza and Iran-Israel stems from our own legacy of anti-colonial solidarity, non-alignment, and a firm commitment to human rights and international law," Mr. Khera said. "Instead of seeing this moment as a strategic conundrum, India could see it as an opportunity – to act as a moral bridge between the warring sides, both of which happen to be our allies."

Adopt Telangana model of caste enumeration, Congress tells Centre

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Urging the Centre to follow the Telangana model of caste enumeration and accusing it of delaying the exercise, the Congress on Tuesday said the government's latest announcement was aimed at "grabbing headlines, buying time and managing the narrative".

On Monday, the Union Home Ministry said the next Census would be conducted in 2027. It also reiterated that caste census would be part of the exercise.

At a press conference here, Congress general secretary Sachin Pilot asked the government to be transparent about the caste census. He said the objective could not just be to collect data on an individual's caste but to understand the socio-economic conditions of families, and create policies to substantially improve their livelihoods. "Without tangible data on caste, no State or Central government can implement targeted interventions, which is what we [the Congress] aimed to achieve. I would urge the Modi government to follow the Telangana model and have a more consultative process," Mr. Pilot said.

Congress leader Sachin Pilot at a press conference on Tuesday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

'Funds inadequate'

He said there were doubts about the government's intentions with regard to the caste census as the funds allocated for it was only ₹574 crore while almost ₹10,000 crore would be required for the exercise. When the Congress raised the demand for caste census, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said people who made such demands were "urban Naxals", he said. "The demand for a caste census was led by the Congress, particularly by Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, who has been raising this issue for several years. Due to the party's continuous and forceful demand, the Modi government has yielded and announced a caste census. However, the facts and figures tell a different story," he said at the party's headquarters.

To underscore the point of Mr. Gandhi's "relentless campaign" for caste census, Indian Youth Congress chief Uday Bhanu Chhib said the party will organise seminars on caste census across the country on June 19 to mark the Congress leader's birthday.

Congress creating division among castes to reap electoral gains: BJP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday accused the Congress and its allies of promoting their own families and creating divisions between castes in an attempt to reap electoral gains.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Union Cabinet has approved a nationwide census, which will, for the first time in Independent India, include both a socio-economic survey and caste enumeration," said BJP MP and spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi at a press conference.

He said the Modi government's objective was to ensure recognition, respect, and the uplift of all castes, especially those at the farthest margins.

> States cannot conduct a caste census, so which State's notification are they (Congress) referring to? States can only conduct surveys.
>
> **SUDHANSHU TRIVEDI**
> BJP spokesperson

'Cong. stopped in 1951'

Mr. Trivedi accused the Congress of double standards on the issue of caste census. "The BJP-led NDA government in Bihar set an example by conducting a caste-based survey in 2022. Ironically, it was the Congress that stopped caste-based enumeration in 1951. It also sidelined the Kaka Kalelkar Committee report and failed to implement the Mandal Commission recommendations. Now, the same party raises questions on these issues while ignoring facts clearly stated in official documents," he said.

The BJP leader alleged that the Congress and its allies were interested only in the uplifting of their own families, and for that, creating conflict among castes. "While they want to dedicate all loyalty only to their own families, and incite conflict among all sections for that purpose," he said.

"After having been in power for so long, the Congress should at least understand technical matters. The notification for a caste census is issued by the Centre. States cannot conduct a caste census, so which State's notification are they referring to? States can only conduct surveys. The process of conducting a survey is different and has no statutory procedure," said Mr. Trivedi.

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ONLINE applications are invited for admission to B.Tech. & B.Arch. Programmes offered by the following Universities/Institutes established by Government of NCT of Delhi:

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New Registration (for those candidates who failed to register in the initial window) and Choice Filling/ Choice Editing (for any modification in the preference of choices) is open for **SINGLE DAY** on **JUNE 19, 2025 (Thursday) FROM 10:00AM to 10:30P.M.**

For detailed information regarding Eligibility Criteria, Reservation, Admission Procedure, Counselling Schedules, Application Process etc., please visit website: https://jacdelhi.admissions.nic.in
HELP DESK: helpdesk.jacdelhi2025@dtu.ac.in
NOTE: - *APPLICATION RECEIVED WITHOUT PRESCRIBED FEE SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND WILL BE SUMMARILY REJECTED.*
Chairperson, JAC Delhi 2025

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Date & Time: 21,22,28,29th Jun - 5,6,12,13,19th Jul 25 | 2.00 - 6.00 P.M
For more Details: 8667359360,9600776611, 7358887633
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NOTIFICATION
(Issued as per 6(8) of Adoption Regulations, 2022)
1. Name of the Child : Nanma; **2.** Gender : Girl; **3.** Date of birth : 08.04.2017; **4.** Age : 8; **5.** Child Welfare Committee Order No. and Date : CWCKNR/GEN4/2022, 16.06.2023; **6.** Name and Address of the Institution: : Snehaniketan Girls Orphanage, Pattuvam, Kannur, Kerala
Any person having claim over the parent responsibility of the above said child,can inform, District Child Protection Officer at the address **"District Child Protection Unit, 2nd Floor, Municipal Town Hall Shopping Complex, Thalassery, Kannur, Kerala (Phone No. 0490-2967199, E-mail: dcpuknr@gmail.com)"** with proper documents within a period of 30 days from the publication of this notice. Otherwise, it shall be concluded that the Child has no Legal Parents and will proceed with the adoption process.
(F4/216/2025/I&PRD)

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF IMAGING TECHNOLOGY (C-DIT)
Thiruvananthapuram-27
Ph: 0471-2380910/912
E-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tenders is invited for the Supply of Aluminum Metalized Tamper Evident Polyester Film Running contract basis.
For details and online submission of bid please visit **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**
Last date of submission of bids: **26.06.2025, 03.00 PM.**
Tender id. 2025_CDIT_769713_1
17.06.2025 Director, C-DIT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, MEGA LIFT, BHUBANESWAR.
Plot No. A 8/2, Bhoinagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, PIN-751022.
E-Mail : cemlpwr.od@gmail.com
Government of Odisha - "e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. 01ML/2025-26
On Line open tender is invited for EPC Contract (Turn Key Basis) for Mega Lift, Odisha
1. **Name of Work:** Execution of 05 nos. of Lift Irrigation Schemes with intake points on Mahanadi & Daya River having Command area between 500Ha. to 2000 Ha. in **Cluster No.XXXIV** in the district of Khurda & Puri including its distribution network, up to 1 Ha Chak having total planned Culturable Command Area of 7,700 Ha. on "EPC -Turn Key" basis including power system connectivity and Operation & Maintenance of complete commissioned schemes for fifteen years.
2. **Period of completion : 36 (Thirty-six)** calendar months including rainy season.
3. **Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal : 21.06.2025, 10 A.M.**
4. **Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal : 11.07.2025 up to 5.00 P.M.**
5. **Name & address of the officer inviting Bid : Chief Engineer, Megalift A-8/2, Bhoi Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Pin -751022**

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal **"https://tendersodisha.gov.in"**
Chief Engineer, Megalift, Bhubaneswar.
A-287 : OIPR-32504/11/0044/2526

Andhra Pradesh State FiberNet Limited APSFL
Proposals are invited from interested agencies for **RFP for Engagement of Financial Audit Firm for APSFL.** Details of the RfPs and corrigenda may be downloaded from e-procurement platform **tender.apeprocurement.gov.in**
DIPR 4196PP/CL, Dt.17-06-2025

|| कार्यालय कमाण्डेन्ट पुलिस ट्रेनिंग स्कूल, मण्डोर रोड़ जोधपुर ||
क्रमांक:–न–1(2)पीटीएस–जोध/सामान्य/2025–26/987-1005 दिनांक: 05.06.2025
–: संशोधित नीलामी–सूचना :–
सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि पुलिस ट्रेनिंग स्कूल,मण्डोर रोड़ जोधपुर के प्रांगण में नीलामी सूचना कमांक 768–81 दिनांक 06.05.2025 के द्वारा दिनांक 30.05.2025 को प्रातः 11 बजे खुली बोली द्वारा रखी गई थी को कारणवंश संशोधित दिनांक 09.07.2025 को प्रातः 11 बजे रखी जाती है। नीलामी की शर्तें पूर्वतः रहेगी।
(रविराज सिंह)
कमाण्डेन्ट
पुलिस ट्रेनिंग स्कूल,जोधपुर।
DIPR/C/7882/2025

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4th Floor, JLN Stadium Metro Station, Kaloor, Ernakulam-682017
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E-TENDER
E-Tender cum Auction Notice For Commercial Land Lease of KMRL Land at Kaloor (45 Cents)
E Tender-id : 2025_KMRL_767922_1
Publishing date : 04-Jun-2025 06:00
Opening date : 25-Jun-2025 05:00 PM
E-Tender cum Auction Notice For Commercial Land Lease of KMRL Land at Kakkanad
E Tender-id : 2025_KMRL_763866_1
Publishing date : 09-May-2025 05:00 PM
Opening date : 28-Jun-2025 05:00 PM
Tender documents can be downloaded from www.etenders.kerala.gov.in / www.kochimetro.org
Further corrigendum & addendum will be published only on website

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AURANGABAD
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University Campus, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar (Aurangabad) – 431004 (MH)
Website: www.nielit.gov.in/aurangabad,
Ph: 0240 2982021, 2982022
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW ON 09.07.2025
Applications are invited for empanelment of candidates for the following positions on contract basis for various Projects:

Sl. No.	Position	Nos.
01	Project Associate (AEL)	01
02	Project Associate (PCB)	01
03	Project Associate (RISC-V SoC)	02
04	Project Associate (DEL)	01
05	Project Associate (DEPM)	02
06	Project Associate-I	02

Interested candidates are advised to refer to the URL: http:/nielit.gov.in/aurangabad for eligibility, terms and conditions, application form, etc. Eligible candidates shall bring in filled-in Application Form and other relevant documents on the day of the walk-in interview.
No.01/NIELIT-A/2025/02 **Executive Director**

M BG-BGE

INBRIEF

Lightning strikes kill 12 in Bihar; CM announces aid

At least 12 people were killed by lightning strikes in six districts of Bihar on Thursday. According to the State Disaster Management Department, Buxar reported four deaths, West Champaran three, Katihar two, and Kaimur, Lakhisarai and Sitamarhi one each. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar expressed condolence over the deaths and announced an ex-gratia of ₹4 lakh each for the next of kin. The Chief Minister has appealed to people to remain alert and stay indoors during thunderstorms. He urged them to follow advisories issued by the Disaster Management Department to safeguard themselves against lightning and during heavy rain.

ONGC to rope in U.S. experts to stop gas leak in Assam rig

The scale of a natural gas leak from a rig in eastern Assam's Sivasagar district has led the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to contact foreign experts to contain it. On Tuesday, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the State's Chief Secretary, Ravi Kota, discussed the matter with the Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, and the Chairman of the oil exploration major, who is expected to visit Sivasagar soon. "They (the ONGC) told us that they are bringing experts from the U.S. They are optimistic about blocking the well soon," he said. Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri held a meeting to take stock of the situation.

Amarnath Yatra routes made 'no-fly zones'; more CAPF personnel deployed

J&K L-G imposes ban on use of UAVs, drones, and balloons; restrictions will not be applicable to cases of medical evacuation, disaster management, and for surveillance by security forces

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday passed orders to declare the twin routes for the Amarnath Yatra as "no-flying zones" between July 1 and August 10.

An official spokesperson said the J&K Home Department, on the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor, issued "strict security directives regarding aerial activity during the upcoming Amarnath Yatra".

Officials said the measure was taken "to ensure strengthened security during the yatra". Any kind of aviation platforms and devices, including UAVs, drones, and balloons, would be prohibited on both the Pahalgam axis (in south Kashmir) and Baltal axis (in central Kashmir).

These restrictions, however, will not be applicable to cases of medical evacuation, disaster management, and for surveillance by security forces. "A detailed Standard Operation Procedure for such exceptions will be issued subsequently," an official said.

Workers install a temporary shed for pilgrims at an Amarnath Yatra base camp, ahead of the annual pilgrimage. PTI

580 CAPF companies

Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan chaired a high-level security meeting in Srinagar to work out the security details for this year's yatra. Additional security measures are being undertaken for smooth and peaceful conduct of the yatra. Around 580 additional companies of Central Armed Paramilitary Forces (CAPF) are being deployed for the yatra.

The annual yatra comes in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 civilians dead on April 22. The Baisaran meadow where the attack took place is adjacent to the yatra route in Pahalgam.

The Amarnath Yatra will commence from July 3 and culminate on August 9.

Meanwhile, BJP national general secretary and Jammu and Kashmir in-charge Tarun Chugh said the attempt to spread fear through the Pahalgam terror attack had "failed". He said the yatra would witness record participation this year.

"Terrorism will not dictate our calendar or our culture. Pakistan's plans to spread fear in the valley have failed yet again. Jammu and Kashmir is moving ahead with confidence, and this is the true reply to those who wish to keep the region in turmoil," Mr. Chugh said.

The BJP leader said the 38-day yatra "will reflect India's unity, faith, and resilience against terrorism". "Return of tourists to the region underscores the Centre's commitment to peace and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan's ISI and its terror proxies had conspired to cripple Jammu and Kashmir's tourism economy, but Operation Sindoor delivered a decisive blow to their agenda," he said.

Choksi takes Indian govt. to U.K. court for 'kidnap, torture'

Press Trust of India
LONDON

Mehul Choksi

Mehul Choksi, the businessman wanted in India to face charges in the Punjab National Bank (PNB) fraud case, is suing the Indian government and five individuals in the High Court in London as conspirators for his alleged "kidnap, torture and attempted rendition".

The Indian authorities have denied the allegations and objected to the U.K. jurisdiction based on "state immunity" and also sought permission for expert evidence on Indian law and the Indian Constitution to be taken into account.

During a case management hearing listed before Justice Freedman on Monday, the court was told that Mr. Choksi claimed to have been tortured back in May 2021 as part of a kidnap attempt "orchestrated by the government of India".

"For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in these submissions is intended to waive or should be interpreted as waiving India's state immunity," the court was told this week by the Indian side.

Mr. Choksi was accused of making "extremely serious allegations against India, alleging it masterminded an international plot to kidnap and harm him".

"It is India's position that the present claim is being pursued principally with the (misguided) intention of attempting to cause embarrassment to India and obtain leverage in the Claimant's international attempts to avoid extradition," barrister Harish Salve argued on behalf of the Indian authorities.

Mr. Choksi's lawyers, led by barrister Edward Fitzgerald, alleged that there was a collusion between five individuals in the attack on him in Antigua to be forcibly taken to Dominica in the Caribbean with the purpose of being "rendered" to India.

Meanwhile, he remains in custody in Belgium, fighting against his extradition to India.

India increased its nuclear warhead count to 180 in 2024: SIPRI report

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

'Nearly all of the nine nuclear-armed countries upgraded weapons, added newer versions'

Nearly all of the nine nuclear-armed countries, including India and Pakistan, continued intensive nuclear modernisation programmes in 2024, upgrading existing weapons and adding newer versions, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), a global think tank, says in its 2025 report.

India is believed to have once again "slightly expanded" its nuclear arsenal in 2024 and continued to develop new types of nuclear delivery systems. "India's new 'canisterised' missiles, which can be transported with mated warheads, may be capable of carrying nuclear warheads during peacetime, and possibly even multiple warheads on each missile, once they become operational," the SIPRI says.

"Pakistan also continued to develop new delivery systems and accumulate fissile material in 2024, suggesting that its nuclear arsenal might expand over the coming decade," it says, observing that in early 2025, tensions between India and Pakistan briefly spilled over into armed conflict.

"The combination of strikes on nuclear-related military infrastructure and third-party disinformation risked turning a conventional conflict into a nuclear crisis," says Matt Korda, associate senior researcher with SIPRI's Weapons of Mass Destruction Programme and associate director for the Nuclear Information Project at FAS. "This should act as a stark warning for states seeking to increase their reliance on nuclear weapons," he says.

The findings, SIPRI says, are that a dangerous new nuclear arms race is emerging at a time when arms control regimes are severely weakened. The nine nuclear-armed countries are the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), and Israel.

Call for caution

According to the SIPRI estimates, India's stored warheads increased to 180 in January 2025, from 172 in January 2024; whereas that of Pakistan remained at 170. The U.S. has 1,770 deployed and 1,930 stored warheads, while its inventory stands at 5,177 in 2025 compared with 5,328 in 2024.

Russia has 1,718 deployed and 2,591 stored warheads, and its inventory stands at 5,459, as against 5,580 in 2024. China has 24 deployed warheads and 576 stored ones, with its inventory rising to 600 in January 2025 from 500 in 2024.

The total inventory stands at 12,241, of which 9,614 warheads are in "military stockpiles for potential use". An estimated 3,912 warheads are deployed with missiles and aircraft, and the rest are in central storage.

The report cautions that if no new agreement is reached to cap their stockpiles, the number of warheads deployed on strategic missiles might increase after the expiry of the bilateral 2010 Treaty on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (New START) in February 2026.

Sonam, other accused taken to Sohra to recreate 'honeymoon murder' scene

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Meghalaya police on Tuesday took four of the five persons accused of murdering Indore businessman Raja Raghuvanshi to recreate the crime scene near the Weisawdong Falls in the State's Sohra area.

Sohra is in East Khasi Hills district. The place is about 50 km from Shillong, Meghalaya's capital. The four are Raja's wife Sonam, and the alleged hired killers Vishal Chauhan, Akash Rajput, and Anand Kurmi. The fifth accused, Raj Kushwaha, was not taken to the spot.

Vivek Syiem, the Superintendent of Police (SP) of East Khasi Hills, told pressperspersons in Sohra that the reconstruction of the crime scene was done in five cases based on what the accused said during the interrogation.

"After they admitted to their involvement in the offence, we had to replay how they did it," he said.

The police bringing the accused in the Raja Raghuvanshi murder case to the crime spot in East Khasi Hills on Tuesday. ANI

Mr. Syiem said the accused had attempted to eliminate Raja at multiple places and eventually executed the plan at the viewpoint near the Weisawdong Falls upon finding the place empty.

"We had taken a Fire and Emergency Services person to replay Raja's role. We ascertained their positions – who was standing where, and how the blows took place. There were three blows, first by Vishal, alias Vicky, second by Anand, and the last by Akash," he said.

Lethal blow

"Sonam gave the signal just before the parking lot that they should finish the job. She was there when it happened. Blood came out when Vishal hit Raja first. Sonam moved away from the spot when Raja was screaming after falling. Later, the body was thrown down by the three other accused," Mr. Syiem said.

"The post-mortem report showed two cut marks on the victim's head. The first hit was lethal, carried out by using both hands," he said. Raja's decomposed body was found near the Weisawdong Falls on June 2.

Meanwhile, Indore Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime) Rajesh Dandotiya told *The Hindu* that the SIT members held a meeting with the senior officers of the Indore police and a Crime Branch team would help the Meghalaya police in probing local angles.

Another senior crime branch officer said the SIT and local police team visited the apartment in Lasuriya area where Sonam had stayed after returning to Indore but no "credible evidence was recovered".

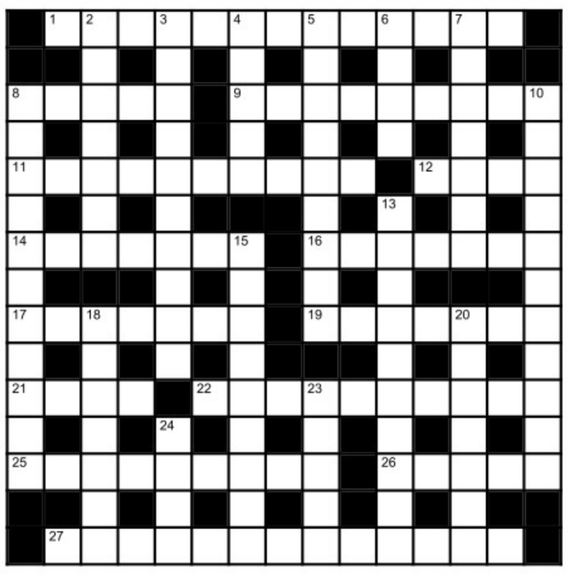
(With inputs from Mehul Malpani in Bhopal)

TH CROSSWORD + 14514

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Cracked the quadratic equations on vacation - not hard, it's a thing one learns to like (8,5)
8 See 10 Down
9 Healing mild acne developing over face of inmate (9)
11 Drug, mostly dope in nice resort giving satisfaction (10)
12 Hit hard and counterattack finally after century (4)
14 Low, flat cloud of importance, embodying onset of rains (7)
16 Upset by one addict knocking back drink (2,1,4)
17 Checkmate in one move, crushed by European master making a comeback (7)
19 Warn about most vigorous aquatic animal (7)
21 Rebellious boy tackling British aristocrats (4)
22 Fish in pub with bit of dark rum in a cocktail (10)
25 Frenzied commotion about a noisy rave (9)
26 Moving quickly, striving hard for victory (5)
27 Sexy, stylish model in hut with a roughneck? Extremely wild speculation (4,2,3,4)

Down

2 Sample of enriched dark cheese (7)
3 Saving American breaking skull, hip, chest - ultimately difficult job (6,4)
4 Emir excited about atomic plant (5)
5 Removal of director for primarily shocking corruption (9)
6 Piece of popular composition to be played with a bow (4)
7 Effort to secure popular, fine wrapping material (7)
8 Ponder about son turning nine, getting a little defiantly touchy (4-7)
10/8A Enjoy dentist's job? Very difficult to do (4,7,5)
13 Expressed disapproval and ran quickly to arrest bum on heroin (10)
15 Angular unit of acceleration described by a nerd, it's complicated (9)
18 Start to praise choir boy playing classical music of the bagpipe (7)
20 Run, hike, exercise to become more sexually attractive (7)
23 Farm vehicle overturned outside new hotel (5)
24 Indian peasant in yard surrounded by rubbish (4)

SUDOKU

		7	6	1		9		
	9			5				
	2	4			8	5		
8	7		5					
		3				6		
					2		8	3
		2	1			8	7	
				2			4	
		9		4	7	1		

No.SS6554 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

E	X	E	M	P	L	A	R		Z	O	Y	S	I	A
F		N		E		R		B		N		H		N
F	U	S	S	P	O	T		A	L	A	B	A	M	A
E		U		P		I		N		I		L		C
C	A	R	V	E		C	I	G	A	R	I	L	L	O
T		E		R		L		E				O		N
			G	O	P	E	A	R	S	H	A	P	E	D
E		M		N		O		S		A		S		A
G	O	U	P	I	N	F	L	A	M	E	S			
G		R				F		N		M		F		C
C	R	A	S	H	L	A	N	D			A	N	I	S	E
R		L		E		I		M		T		N		M
E	X	I	G	E	N	T		A	L	I	D	A	D	E
A		S		D		H		S		T		L		N
M	U	T	I	S	M		S	H	E	E	R	E	S	T

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	4	1	7	8	3	2	5
3	8	2	6	5	4	7	1	9
5	7	1	3	2	9	4	6	8
1	4	5	7	3	2	9	8	6
8	2	9	4	1	6	5	3	7
7	3	6	8	9	5	1	4	2
9	6	3	5	8	1	2	7	4
4	5	7	2	6	3	8	9	1
2	1	8	9	4	7	6	5	3

FAITH

Reading the Ramayana

People in the Tretayuga were telling each other that God would realise and understand their difficulties if only He came down from the realm of His abode.

Hearing this, the Lord has transcended as Rama and lived for about 11,000 years. Although he faced several problems, he did not give up following dharma. That is why, even after millions of years, people continue to celebrate Rama Navami, the auspicious day of Rama's manifestation.

Kesava Vajapeya Swamy said in a discourse that our sins act as impediments to our happiness and well-being. It is unfair to accuse God of not answering to our prayers or clearing our sufferings.

Lord Krishna says in the Bhagavad Gita that "only the ignorants disregard Me, not knowing my higher stature as the supreme Lord of all beings," (chapter 9, verse 11).

In other Yugas, if people undertake only good deeds, such as going on a pilgrimage to Kasi kshetra, they would derive benefits. However, in the Kaliyuga, people can derive benefits by thinking of performing good deeds. Equally, in all other yugas, if people even think of evil deeds, they will incur sins, but in the Kaliyuga, such mere thinking will not attract any sin.

Three ways are prescribed to cleanse our sins: performing Yagnas, giving to charity, observing *Tapas* (penance) and reading or hearing Ramayana is a tapas.

The Ramayana begins with the word "*Tapas*" (*Tapaswadhyayaniratham*). If a person cannot read the entire Ramayana, one can recite the Sankshepa Ramayanam or the Gayatri Ramayana, which contain 24 slokas.

INBRIEF

TVS Motor enters Indonesian E2W market with iQube

TVS Motor Company on Tuesday announced its foray into the Indonesian electric two-wheeler market with its all-electric scooter iQube. The company's arm PT TVS Motor has opened bookings for iQube in Indonesia at an introductory price of IDR 29.9 million (around ₹1.6 lakh), TVS Motor Company said in a statement. The company said its electric scooter will be assembled at the PT TVS Motor Company manufacturing facility at East Karawang. PTI

PNB MetLife declares bonus of ₹1,041.45 crore for FY25

PNB MetLife India Insurance has declared a ₹1,041.45 crore bonus for 2024-25. This is 12% more from previous financial year's ₹930 crore bonus and more than 5.68 lakh eligible participating policyholders will benefit, the private life insurer said on Tuesday. MD and CEO Sameer Bansal said the bonus is the highest ever and reflects the company's "disciplined investment approach, robust risk management and effective asset allocation."

'Ambani heirs have combined net worth of over ₹7 lakh cr.'

Akash and Anant Ambani took the top spot as the richest Indians in 360 One Wealth Management firm's first wealth creators list with a combined net worth of ₹7.18 lakh crore. The list, prepared in association with Crisil, is based on publicly available data of promoter shareholding in companies and trusts. The list, which takes into account individuals with a minimum net worth of ₹5 billion, has 2,013 wealth creators, with a combined net worth of about ₹10 lakh crore.

SEBI bans IIFL Securities' Director Sanjiv Bhasin for front running

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has banned among others Sanjiv Bhasin, the Director of IIFL Securities, from securities trading for taking stock positions contrary to his public recommendations.

Experts said that Mr. Bhasin was the first high profile research analyst SEBI had penalised for front running.

So far, the markets watchdog has pulled up other market participants for front running, but not a research analyst.

"He [Bhasin] used to first buy securities himself, then used to recommend the same securities to the public on news channels...and/or IIFL Telegram Channel, to buy the same securities. Once prices of securities increased after his recommendations, Sanjiv Bhasin used to sell the securities, thereby making a profit," SEBI said in its findings in the investigation based on complaints received.

"Most of his recommendations were 'buy.' The stocks that Mr. Bhasin recommended were those of major companies like L&T Technology Services, Parag Milk Foods, Interglobe Aviation, Steel Authority of India Ltd., and Godrej RCP. The total amount gained by the unlawful trading of the recommended stocks amounted to ₹11.37 crore," according to the findings.

'Just 70% of IPOs listed at a premium in CY2025'

Adverse impact on the performance of newly listed stocks attributed to volatile markets; average listing gains dropped from 45-49% in calendar year 2024 to about 7% in 2025, say experts

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Recent volatility in markets have had an adverse impact on the performance of newly listed stocks, according to BSE's data on performance of initial public offerings (IPOs) in calendar year 2025.

Stocks of about 70% of the companies that went public by June 2025, were listed at a price higher than their issue price. This was the lowest since 2017 when the measure was at 78% of the total IPOs listed at a premium. Moreover, this share was 85% in 2024, a year which was a bumper for new issues.

As many as 17 mainboard companies have listed so far as of June 2025. Of the 15 companies for which data of offer price is available, eight are trading below their offer price with many of them even costing lesser than a rupee a share. Share prices of six of these firms dropped more than 80% from their offer price.

Experts said that the average listing gains had also dropped. "CY24, the average gain from an IPO was close to 45-49%, which is a sizeable number. For calendar year 2025, the listing gain is about 7%," said Prashant Rao, director and head – Equity Capital Markets, Anand Rathi Investment Banking.

Indian markets have been volatile and responding to geo-political tensions due to the U.S.'s unprecedented tariff action, deteriorating relations with Pakistan, the conflict between Israel and Iran, besides a general correction from the four-year bull rally after COVID-19. Optimism led to 2024 being one of the best years for firms that eyed listing. However, this changed in the ongoing calendar year.

"The market sentiment is still tepid and with a bit of nervousness around, there has been a slow start for companies post listing," said Bhavesh Shah, MD, head – Investment Banking at Equirus Capital.

The trend must be viewed in the context of a decline in the number of IPOs overall.

"The IPO activity in the Indian capital markets has registered a decline with 17 issuances raising approximately ₹29,000 crore in the calendar year so far in comparison with 32 issuances raising approximately ₹46,500 crore last year," Mr. Shah said.

Off the mark

Stocks of about 70% of companies that went public by June 2025 were listed at a price higher than their issue price

- This is the lowest since 2017, when the measure was at 78% of the total IPOs listed at a premium
- This share grew to 85% in 2024, which was a bumper year for new issues
- As many as 17 mainboard companies have listed so far as of June 2025

Source: BSE

CCI buys 100 lakh bales of cotton at MSP

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has purchased close to 100 lakh bales at minimum support price (MSP) from farmers in the current cotton season and has sold 35 lakh bales in the market.

CCI chairman and MD Lalit Kumar Gupta told *The Hindu* on Tuesday that the CCI opened more than 500 centres in the cotton growing areas since the beginning of the season in October 2024. The demand for cotton is not much from the textile mills and if the current market situation persists, the CCI may purchase more cotton at MSP next season, he said.

Official sources said the outgo for CCI this year for the MSP operations was ₹37,500 crore. With an 8% increase in the MSP for the next cotton season (October 2025-September 2026), the outgo will be higher if the CCI buys more cotton from the farmers at MSP.

Jump in imports

Meanwhile, cotton imports saw a 133% jump last month compared with last May and 131% increase in value in April-May 2025 compared with the same period last year.

Nishant Asher, secretary of the Indian Cotton Federation said international cotton is almost 8% cheaper than Indian cotton. With the 11% import duty, Indian spinners are getting cotton from other countries at 1-2% lesser prices. However, they are unable to compete in the international market.

The import duty is a major deterrent for the competitiveness of the Indian textile industry, he said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,583	-0.26
US Dollar	86.34	-0.34
Gold	1,00,170	-1.18
Brent oil	75.10	3.55

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2488.50	-55.50
Adani Ports	1392.30	-8.30
Apollo Hosp	7006.50	-107.50
Asian Paints	2264.80	20.00
Axis Bank	1215.10	-0.30
Bajaj Auto	8494.50	-35.00
Bajaj Finserv	2003.30	-24.90
Bajaj Finance	923.00	-15.00
Bharat Elec	401.75	-2.10
Bharti Airtel	1854.80	-6.50
Cipla	1503.50	-23.50
Coal India	391.30	-3.05
Dr Reddys Lab	1318.80	-28.00
Eicher Motors	5341.00	-24.00
Eternal Ltd.	247.25	-4.90
Grasim Ind	2671.40	-33.50
HCL Tech	1729.60	6.60
HDFC Bank	1929.60	-5.80
HDFC Life	773.95	3.40
Hero MotoCorp	4371.00	6.50
Hindalco	641.70	-7.90
Hind Unilever	2328.60	1.20
ICICI Bank	1423.20	-3.70
IndusInd Bank	809.15	-12.10
Infosys	1639.90	16.10
ITC	417.40	-0.80
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	289.80	-4.35
JSW Steel	999.65	-4.15
Kotak Bank	2136.80	-2.20
L&T	3622.30	-6.40
M&M	3007.20	-16.40
Maruti Suzuki	12595.00	65.00
NestleIndia	2362.00	-27.80
NTPC	335.20	1.50
ONGC	252.31	-4.48
PowerGrid Corp	288.55	-0.10
Reliance Ind	1431.20	-6.60
SBI Life	1800.20	2.40
State Bank	792.30	-0.20
Shriram Finance Ltd.	665.00	-11.15
Sun Pharma	1650.20	-35.10
TataConsumerProduct	1071.60	-11.80
Tata Motors	674.75	-11.90
Tata Steel	152.60	-1.57
TCS	3515.30	19.00
Tech Mahindra	1718.60	24.70
Titan	3405.70	-32.40
Trent Ltd.	5626.50	-53.00
UltraTech Cement	11383.00	-112.00
Wipro	262.91	0.02

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 17

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	86.04	86.36
Euro	99.50	99.87
British Pound	116.71	117.14
Japanese Yen (100)	59.51	59.73
Chinese Yuan	11.98	12.02
Swiss Franc	105.83	106.24
Singapore Dollar	67.15	67.41
Canadian Dollar	63.44	63.67
Malaysian Ringitt	20.26	20.38
Australian Dollar	56.24	56.46

Source:Indian Bank

Raminfo bags ₹474 cr. rooftop solar order

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

SPV Raminfo Green Energy, in which the company holds 51% stake, will execute the RRECL project

Raminfo, through a consortium it is leading, bagged a ₹474-crore order from the Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation Ltd. (RRECL).

This marks the firm's foray into smart-energy solutions, the city-based tech solutions provider said on Tuesday. Special purpose vehicle (SPV) Raminfo Green Energy in which the company holds 51% stake, will execute the project, MD L. Srinath Reddy said in a release.

The SPV will operate in electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply sector, the company said.

The scope of the order includes design, supply, erection, testing and commissioning along with comprehensive operation and maintenance for 25 years of rooftop solar photovoltaic power projects to be installed on buildings owned by the State government and its undertakings across Rajasthan aggregating 73 MW total capacity.

The company's shares closed 19.99% higher at ₹92.66 apiece on the BSE.

'May gem, jewellery exports slipped 16%'

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

Overall gems and jewellery exports declined 15.8% to $2,263.42 million (₹19,260.81 crore) in May compared with the same month of the previous year on tariff announcement by the U.S., GJEPC said.

Exports stood at $2,688.38 million (₹22,414.02 crore) during the same period of 2024, according to Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) data.

Exports of cut and polished diamonds declined 35.5% in May to $949.70 million (₹8,089.81 crore).

"Overall exports continue to decline and in May the dip was 15.8% mainly on tariff announcement by the U.S. However, gold jewellery exports have gone up due to continuing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, which raised the demand for the precious metal as a safe haven," GJEPC chairman Kirit Bhansali told PTI.

Gold jewellery exports rose on geopolitical tensions.

Vaishnaw opens Gati Shakti auto cargo terminal at Maruti plant

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

To boost logistical efficiency of automobile transportation, Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated India's largest automobile Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal at Maruti Suzuki's Manesar plant in Haryana.

The Manesar facility is connected with Patli Railway Station via a 10-km long dedicated rail link, a part of the 121.7 km Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor being developed by the Haryana Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation (HRIDC).

The construction work on this 10 km link cost ₹800 crore with HRIDC contributing ₹684 crore and the balance funded by Maruti Suzuki. Loading capacity of the terminal is one of the largest in India – 4.5 lakh automobiles/year.

Top gear: Loading capacity of the terminal is one of the largest in India at about 4.5 lakh automobiles every year. PTI

Mr. Vaishnaw said prior to 2014, the annual Railway Budget allocation for the State was merely ₹300 crore. "This year, Haryana has received a record allocation of ₹3,416 crore."

Mr. Vaishnaw also said, "Before 2014, the Railways' annual budget hovered around ₹24,000-₹25,000 crore, Now, it has been increased to ₹2.5 lakh crore."

He added a major decision was taken recently to upgrade passenger train services. Over 100 MEMU trains will now be augmented greatly benefiting short-distance commuters. "A new factory has been set up at Kazipet, Andhra Pradesh, for the manufacturing of over 100 MEMU trains," Mr. Vaishnaw said.

He also announced a significant reform in Tatkal ticket booking, to be implemented from July 1.

"As per the new rule, only Aadhaar-authenticated and KYC-verified users will be allowed to book Tatkal tickets during the first 30 minutes of the booking window. This measure will help ensure tickets are available to genuine passengers," he added.

RAJASTHAN POLICE
STATE CRIME RECORDS BUREAU
Ref-S-10(18)SCRB/STORE/E-EVIDENCE/2024-25-00691/1128 Date - 30-5-25
Notice Inviting Bid
Rajasthan Police invites bid from eligible for the following item :

Item	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)
RFP for Supply & Installation of IT Infrastructure for ICJS Project (Desktop, Printer, UPS and Web camera)	41,11,74,000.00/-

Interested bidder may visit & download RFP comprising of details from https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://police.rajasthan.gov.in portals from 02-06-2025 and submit bids till 23-06-2025 at 5.00 PM. Technical Bids shall be opened on 23-06-2025 at 6.00 PM
UBN- CRB2526RFP002
(Sharat Kaviraj)
Inspector General of Police, SCRB, Rajasthan, Jaipur
DIPR/C/7479/2025

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन, राजस्थान
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग, स्वास्थ्य भवन, तिलक मार्ग, राजस्थान, जयपुर फोन न. 0141–2225736, E–Mail ID: cemhraj@gmail.com
क्रमांक : 743 दिनांक : 28.05.2025
ई–निविदा सूचना संख्या: 07/2025–26
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से पोस्ट क्वालिफिकेशन पद्धति से चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य विभाग में 04 निर्माण कार्यो राशि रू. 11003.00 लाख हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग/राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत अनुभवी संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई–प्रोक्यूरमेंट निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण DIPR की वेब साईट www.dipronline.Org, www.sppp.raj.nic.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व विभागीय वेब साईट http://rajswasthya.nic.in पर देखा जा सकता हैं।
UBN:- 1. MHS2526WLOB01443 2. MHS2526WLOB01444 3. NRH2526WLOB00376 4. NRH2526WLOB00374
मुख्य अभियंता चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य राजस्थान, जयपुर
DIPR/C/7352/2025

V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority
Civil Engineering Department
Tuticorin-628 004.
SAGARMALA
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

#	Name of the work	Estimated cost Put to tender value (Amount in INR)	Cost of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Amount in INR)	Online Tender opening date
1.	Infrastructure Enhancement for Efficient Loading and Unloading at Marshalling yard in VOC Port	7,62,62,287/-	15,25,250/-	04.07.2025

Note: For eligible tenderers, downloading of bid documents from the NIC e-tendering website:
i) https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app
ii) https://www.vocport.gov.in
Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER
VOCPA

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines). Email : pmd8@tnpl.co.in
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
252613 001882	Fabrication, erection, testing, inspection and commissioning of alloy steel and carbon steel pipes, pipe fittings, flanges, steam traps, valves, steam headers, flow nozzles, spring hangers and pipe shoe supports for the steam supply and distribution system for RSPS#2 Project at TNPL Unit-I.	08.07.2025

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website & NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, tender fee, EMD etc., are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
DIPR/3076/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत बालोतरा
क्रमांक:186 दिनांक: 28.05.2025
निविदा सूचना संख्या: 01 वर्ष 2025-2026
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से सा.नि.वि. में बजट 2025-26 एवं अन्य स्वीकृत कार्यों हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों / केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग / डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग / रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 02 कार्य जिनकी लागत राशि रू. 471.00 लाख है के लिए ई-टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है।

ऑनलाईन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तांरीख	:	02 जून 2025 प्रातः 9:30 बजे से 23 जून 2025, सायं 06:00 बजे तक

निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट पर http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
(1) PWD2526WSOB03125 (2)PWD2526WSOB03126
(अमृतलाल देवपाल)
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता,
सा.नि.वि. वृत बालोतरा
DIPR/C/7407/2025

कार्यालय, सदस्य सचिव, राजस्थान मेडिकेवर रिलीफ सोसायटी जवाहर लाल नेहरू चिकित्सालय, अजमेर
E-mail- supdtjlnhospitalajmer@gmail.com
No. 803 /RMRS/JLN/Ajmer/2025 Dated: 31.05.2025
ई- निविदा (UBN No. MCA2526GLRC00045)
इस चिकित्सालय के कार्डियोलोजी विभाग में आने वाले मुख्यमंत्री आयुष्मान आरोग्य योजना के अर्न्तगत एवं अन्य योजना के अर्न्तगत आने वाले रोगियों हेतु तथा अन्य रोगियों के हृदय रोग के उपचार में काम आने वाले Coronary Angiography Cardiac Implants **Drug Eluting Coronary Stent** के लिये ई-निविदा के माध्यम से मूल निर्माताओं, अधिकृत विक्रेताओं से ई-प्रोक्यूमेन्ट प्रक्रिया के तहत 02 वर्ष (2025-27) के लिये रेट कॉन्ट्रेक्ट ऑनलाईन ई-निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबंधित विवरण इन्टरनेट साईट www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

1.	Estimated Cost	Rs. 11.00 carore
2.	Tender Fees	Rs. 5000/-
3.	RISL Processing Fees	Rs. 2500/-
4.	Earnest Money	Rs. 22.00 Lakh
5.	Document Download Start Date and Time	31-05-2025 From 1:00 PM to 24-06-2025 From 02:00 PM
6.	Pre Bid Meeting date & time & Venue	04-06-2025 at 12:00 AM Office of the Member Secretary, RMRS, JLN Hospital, Ajmer (Room no.88)
7.	Document Upload Start Date and Time	05-06-2025 From 12:00 AM to 24-06-2025 up to 02:00 PM
8.	Physical Tender Fees, Processing Fees & Earnest Money Submission date & time & Venue	24-06-2025 Up to 04:00 PM Office of Member Secretary, RMRS, JLN Hospital, Ajmer (Room No.88)
9.	Technical Bid Opening Date & Venue	25-06-2025 at 3:00 PM Office of Member Secretary, RMRS, JLN Hospital, Ajmer.

निविदायें खोलने की तिथि को सार्वजनिक अवकाश होने पर निविदायें अगले कार्य दिवस में खोली जायेंगी। अपूर्ण रूप से भरी हुई निविदायें एवं सशर्त निविदायें स्वीकार नहीं होगी।
DIPR/C/7398/25 सदस्य सचिव

KIDWAI MEMORIAL INSTITUTE OF ONCOLOGY,
Cancer Research & Training Centre
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION (Regional Centre of Cancer Research & Treatment Member of International Union Against Cancer)
Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bengaluru-560029
Ph: +91 080-2656 0722/2656 0723, 080-6669 7999
No: KMIO/SME(1)TENDER/MEDICAL EQUIPMENT /415/2025-26/e-1571301/e-1533364/e-1583929/e-1583913 Date: 16.06.2025
e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION
Online Tenders are invited in Two Bid System for the following through GOK KPP Portal tender for Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology.

Sl No.	Tender No. & Date	Name of the Items
1.	KMIO/SME(1) TENDER/MEDICAL EQUIPMENT /415/2025-26 Date:16.06.2025 (Call-3)	Supply & Commissioning of 800MA Fluoroscopy machine Computer Radiography (CR) with Cassette for Portable X-Ray Machine & to the department of Radio diagnosis at KMIO Bangalore, (Estimated cost: Rs. 128 Lakhs)
2.	KMIO/SME(1) TENDER /ETP/445/2025-26 Date:16.06.2025	Request for proposal for Repair and Operation Maintenance fo 300 KLD Effluent Treatment Plant & Proposal for Repair and Annual Operation Maintenance fo 300KLD Effluent Treatment Plant (Estimated cost: Rs. 26.50 Lakhs)
3.	KMIO/SME(1) TENDER/BMW/427 /2025-26 Date: 16.06.2025 (Call-2)	Management & Disposal of Bio-Medical waste generated in Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology.(Estimated cost: Rs. 10.84 Lakhs)
4.	KMIO/SME(1)TENDER /Pest Control/424/ 2025-26 Date: 16.06.2025 (Call-2)	Annual Maintenance Contract of Pest Control at Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology. (Estimated cost: Rs. 11.00 Lakhs)

The Bid Document will be available in online from:**20.06.2025** to **30.06.2025.** Bidders can view and download the Bid Document from the Website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Bids have to be submitted through KPP Portal and **Rs. 500-00** as KPP Portal fees. The last date and time of Receipt of Bid through KPP Portal is **30.06.2025** till **4:00 PM.** Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept/reject/cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereof
DIPR/SI/1279/2025-26 Sd/- FINANCIAL ADVISOR

WASHINGTON

Tom Cruise, Allen, Thomas, Parton to receive honourary Oscars 2025

REUTERS

Tom Cruise, Debbie Allen, Wynn Thomas, and Dolly Parton will receive honourary Oscars at the 2025 Governors Awards for their lifetime achievements. Mr. Cruise, nominated four times, is recognised for his dedication to film-making and stunts. Ms. Parton earns Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award for her philanthropy. AP

SEOUL

'N. Korea to send deminers, military construction workers to Russia'

REUTERS

Russian state news agency *RIA Novosti* cited top Russian security official Sergei Shoigu, during talks with Kim Jong-un in Pyongyang, as saying that North Korea will send 5,000 military construction workers and 1,000 deminers to Russia's Kursk region to aid reconstruction after Ukraine's occupation. AP

ASTANA

China, Central Asia sign 'eternal' friendship treaty in Kazakhstan

REUTERS

Chinese President Xi Jinping and five Central Asian leaders signed a "Treaty on Eternal Good Neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation" during a summit in Kazakhstan, declaring their nations' "eternal" friendship, Kazakh President Tokayev's press office announced on Tuesday. AFP

LONDON

U.K. slaps new sanctions on Russia 'shadow fleet', bans 20 more ships

REUTERS

The U.K. on Tuesday tightened sanctions on Russia's so-called shadow fleet, banning 20 more ships and blacklisting 10 individuals or entities linked to energy and shipping. The aging fleet helps Russia evade sanctions on oil exports. U.K. officials say sanctions have slowed Russia's economy and war funding. AFP

On Day 5, Israel hits targets in Iran; Tehran continues its missile blitz

Explosions were heard over Tel Aviv and Jerusalem shortly after sirens sounded in many parts of Israel warning of incoming missiles; Tel Aviv says it killed a senior Iranian commander in an overnight attack 'in the heart of Tehran'

Agence France-Presse
TEHRAN

Israel said on Tuesday it targeted military sites in Iran and killed a senior commander in fresh strikes, prompting Tehran to fire missiles in retaliation on the fifth day of escalating clashes between the arch foes.

Explosions were heard over Tel Aviv and Jerusalem shortly after sirens sounded in many parts of Israel warning of incoming missiles, with the military warning of another barrage in the afternoon.

Israeli police reported that debris fell in the central Tel Aviv area and the fire brigade said it was tackling a blaze.

Raging conflict: Smoke billows from a building in Herzliya near Tel Aviv following a fresh barrage of Iranian rockets on Tuesday. AFP

The Israeli military said it killed senior Iranian commander Ali Shadmani in an overnight strike on a "command centre in the heart of Tehran", just four days after his predecessor, Gholam Ali Rashid, was killed in Israel's surprise attack.

Israel also said it targeted multiple missile and drone sites in western Iran overnight and again later on Tuesday, with black-and-white footage showing some of them exploding.

Despite mounting calls to de-escalate, neither side has backed off from the missile blitz that began on Friday, when Israel launched an unprecedented aerial campaign targeting Iranian nuclear and military facilities.

A new wave of Israeli strikes on Tehran – including a dramatic hit on state television headquarters that the broadcaster said killed three persons – prompted both sides to activate missile defence systems overnight.

Iranian media reported several explosions in the central city of Isfahan, home to a key nuclear facility. Residential areas in both countries have suffered, while foreign government scrambled to evacuate their citizens. A cyberattack on Tuesday crippled Sepah Bank, one of Iran's main state-owned banks, the *Fars* news agency reported.

Israel's military said it had intercepted "most" of a fresh barrage of missiles fired from Iran on Tuesday after air raid sirens sounded in Tel Aviv and northern parts of the country.

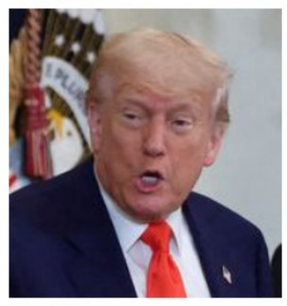
Won't kill Iran 'Supreme Leader' for now: Trump

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump said the United States would not kill Iran's Supreme Leader "for now" and appeared to demand Tehran's surrender, as U.S. ally Israel traded fire with its arch foe for a fifth day on Tuesday.

The comments marked a dramatic escalation in Mr. Trump's rhetoric against Iran and its leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, fuelling questions as to whether Washington would join Israel's attacks after insisting it had no hand in the campaign.

Days after a senior U.S. official said Mr. Trump had told Israel to back down from plans to assassinate Mr. Khamenei, the U.S. President appeared to put the option back on the table with a post on his Truth Social platform.



Donald Trump

"We know exactly where the so-called 'Supreme Leader' is hiding. He is an easy target, but is safe there – We are not going to take him out (kill!), at least not for now," Mr. Trump said.

"But we don't want missiles shot at civilians, or American soldiers. Our patience is wearing thin," he added, later posting a message saying: "UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER!"

Mr. Trump had said earlier in the day that he wanted "a real end" to the conflict.

A White House official said Mr. Trump was convening a meeting of his National Security Council Tuesday to discuss the conflict.

Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth said the U.S. was deploying "additional capabilities" to the West Asia.

Since Friday, at least 24 people have been killed in Israel and hundreds wounded, according to Prime Minister Netanyahu's office.

Iran said on Sunday that Israeli strikes had killed at least 224 people, including military commanders, scientists and civilians.

Russia says Israel 'reluctant' to accept outside mediation

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW/BEIJING

Russia said Tuesday it was ready to act as a peace broker between Israel and Iran, but that Israel was showing reluctance to accept outside mediation.

Israel began launching strikes across Iran on Friday, saying it aimed to prevent Tehran from acquiring a nuclear weapon -- a charge Iran denies. Iran has responded with retaliatory strikes on Israel.

"President Putin has said that Russia is ready to provide mediation services if necessary," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters in a daily briefing.

"At present, we see a reluctance, at least on the part of Israel, to resort to any mediation services or to embark on a peaceful path towards a settlement."

China accused Donald Trump of 'pouring oil' on the conflict between Iran and Israel

French President Emmanuel Macron said Sunday that Russia was not in a position to mediate given its full-scale offensive against Ukraine.

Separately, China on Tuesday accused President Donald Trump of "pouring oil" on the mounting conflict between Iran and Israel, after the U.S. leader warned Tehran residents to "immediately evacuate".

The sudden flare-up in hostilities has sparked fears of a wider conflict, with Mr. Trump urging Iran back to the negotiating table after Israel's attacks derailed ongoing nuclear talks.

Mr. Trump also issued a warning on his Truth Social platform: "Everyone should immediately evacuate Tehran!"

Asked about Mr. Trump's remarks, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said: "Fanning the flames, pouring oil, making threats and mounting pressure will not help to promote the de-escalation of the situation, but will only intensify and widen the conflict."

15 killed, 131 injured in Russian attack on Ukraine

Associated Press
KYIV

A night-time Russian missile and drone bombardment of Ukraine killed 15 people and injured 131 others while they slept in their homes, local officials said on Tuesday, with the main barrage centring on Kyiv.

Russia fired more than 440 drones and 32 missiles at Ukraine, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, calling the Kyiv attack "one of the most terrifying strikes" on the capital. It was one of the deadliest attacks on Kyiv recently and came after two rounds of direct peace talks failed to make progress.

Gaza rescuers say Israel Army killed more than 50 people near aid site

Agence France-Presse
GAZA CITY

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli forces on Tuesday killed more than 50 aid seekers in the southern city of Khan Younis, the latest deadly incident near an aid site in the Palestinian territory.

The Gaza Strip has been ravaged by more than 20 months of war between Israel and Palestinian militant group Hamas, with the situation continuing to deteriorate on the ground amid shortages of food, fuel and clean water.

Civil defence spokesperson Mahmud Bassal said that at least 53 people were killed and some 200 wounded as thousands of Palestinians gathered to receive flour at a World Central Kitchen (WCK) aid centre in the morning.

Severe hit: Palestinians react next to people wounded in an Israeli attack while waiting for aid in Khan Younis on Tuesday. REUTERS

"Israeli drones fired at the citizens. Some minutes later, Israeli tanks fired several shells at the citizens, which led to a large number of martyrs and wounded," he said.

The Israeli army said it was "aware of reports regarding a number of injured individuals from [Israeli military] fire following the crowd's approach" in Khan Younis, and that the details of the incident were "under review".

It said that "a gathering was identified adjacent to an aid distribution truck that got stuck in the area of Khan Younis, and in proximity to [Israeli] troops operating in the area".

Mr. Bassal said that four additional people were killed by Israeli fire on Tuesday near the southern Gaza city of Rafah.

The Health Ministry said on Monday that 5,194 people have been killed since Israel resumed strikes on the territory on March 18 following a truce.

DEPARTMENT OF MINORITY WELFARE
Directorate of Minorities
No.16C, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Bhavan,
Miller Tank Bund Road, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru - 52.
Website: https://dom.karnataka.gov.in
Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Sikh, Parsi
ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRE MATRIC (1st to 8th std) SCHOLARSHIP 2025-26

Online Application
For the year 2025-26 Online Applications are invited from eligible Minority community students of Karnataka State studying in Class 1st to 8th Std.

For online application visit the following websites
https://ssp.postmatric.karnataka.gov.in/ssppre/ (State Scholarship Portal)
https://dom.karnataka.gov.in
(Directorate of Minorities - GOK)

Timeline
Start date for applying Fresh Application 13.06.2025.
Last date to apply: 30.09.2025.

Eligibility Conditions
1. The student must belong to minority community (Muslim, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Sikhs and Parsi)
2. The student must be a domicile of Karnataka.
3. The Student's total family income should not exceed Rs.1.00 Lakhs from all the sources.

Important Note
1. Those who have not applied under this scheme in the year 2024-25 should submit a new application.
2. Those students who have availed scholarship in 2024-25 & whose applications are approved in the year 2024-25 shall be considered as "Auto Renewal" and these students are not required to apply again.
3. The students who have not applied / whose applications are not approved 2024-25, should apply fresh application.
4. Aadhar seeding and NPCI mapping to bank account is mandatory to avail the scholarship.
5. The students who are studying in 1st Std in the current academic year should apply.
6. Eligibility conditions for pre-matric scholarship is subject to the Government orders and Guidelines issued by the government from time to time.

For further details, Instructions and procedures please visit Directorate of Minorities website
https://dom.karnataka.gov.in
For assistance contact nearest Minority Information Centres (MIC) or contact the Minority Welfare Department

Date: 13.06.2025
Place: Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/1286/2025-26

Sd/-
Director
Directorate of Minorities, Bengaluru

COIMBATORE CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
General Fund (Two Cover System)
Tender Notice No. e 33/2025 **Date 16.06.2025**

1. Bids are invited for Road works under **General Fund**
2. Total Estimate Amount **Rs.3555.00 lakhs.**
3. Tender documents are available for free download on **www.tntenders.gov.in** All tender details can be found on the websites
4. Any additional/further details and conditions related to these works can be had from the office of the Commissioner, Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation.
5. **Important dates**
   1. Date and time of Pre-bid meeting : **26.06.2025 at 11.00 A.M**
   2. Last Date and time for downloading bid documents : **03.07.2025 at 3.00 P.M**
   3. Last Date and time for submission of bid document, including online submission : **03.07.2025 at 3.00 P.M**
   4. Date and time of opening of the Technical Bid : **04.07.2025 at 4.00 P.M**
6. In the event of the specified date for submission of bids is declared as a holiday, bids will be received and opened on the next working day at the same time

The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, Big Bazaar Street, Coimbatore – 641 001. Phone 0422 2396026.
Email: commr.coimbatore @tn.gov.in
DIPR/3106/TENDER/2025 **Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation**

Government of Karnataka
TOWN MUNICAL COUNCIL BYADGI

No.: TMC/Eng/SDMF/MITIGATION/2025-26 Date : 17-6-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Chief Officer Town Municipal Council Byadgi Haveri District invites e-tenders for the following Work Indents under 2024-25 SDMF Mitigation Fund. Interested contractor can download the tender documents from the e-procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sl.No.	Indent Number	Estimated Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1	DMA/2025-26/FP/WORK_INDENT42674	110.0

Sd/-
BALACHANDRAGOUDA S. PATIL
President - TMC Byadgi

Sd/-
SUBHASH D. MALAGI
Vice-President - TMC Byadgi

Sd/- **VINAYKUMAR HOLEPPAGOLA**
Chief Officer, TMC Byadgi

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT
Office of the Joint Commissioner of Commercial Taxes(Admn.), Divisional GST office, Malnad Division, VanijyaTherigeBhavan, GopalaGowda Extension, SHIVAMOGGA-577205. Ph: 08182-258707/258708
Dated: 17-06-2025.

2nd Call Short term e-Tender Notification (Through e-procurement system only)

The Joint Commissioner of Commercial Taxes (Admn), Shivamogga, hereby issues Tender Notification and invitesseparate Technical and Financial bids (two cover system) from the reputed and eligible man-power agencies for providing services of the following personnel under the KTPP Act, 1999.

1. Intergrated services (House keeping, Security and other services) - 30 Nos.

The last date for submission of tender: 24-06-2025 (5.00 PM). Date and time of opening of tender: 25-06-2025 (11.00 AM). Date & time of opening financial bid:26.06.2025 (12.00AM). Tender documents with detailed terms and conditions can be obtained through websitehttp://eproc.karnataka.gov.in and for any other details and clarifications contact the undersigned office during office hours.

Sd/- Joint Commissioner of Commrl. Taxes (Admn), Shivamogga.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/06/425

DEADLY COMBINATION

Gill's captaincy a mix of Kohli and Rohit's, reckons Buttler

FILE PHOTO: EMMANUAL YOGINI

He's (Shubman Gill) a really impressive player and an impressive young man. He's pretty calm and measured when he speaks. I feel on the field he's got a bit of fight about him; a bit of intensity, quite passionate. I think he'll be a mix of (Virat) Kohli and Rohit (Sharma) — Jos Buttler.

MORE THE MERRIER

Pacer Harshit Rana added as a cover to India's squad for first Test

FILE PHOTO

Pacer Harshit Rana has been included in the India Test squad for the first Test as a cover and travelled with the rest of the team via train to reach Leeds, the venue for the series opener against England. Harshit was part of the India-A squad and played the first 'Test' against England Lions in Canterbury.

PURPLE PATCH

Smriti topples Wolvaardt to top ODI batting charts

FILE PHOTO: VIJAY SONEJI

India vice-captain Smriti Mandhana on Tuesday moved up to the top spot in ICC ODI batting rankings for the first time since 2019 after South Africa skipper Laura Wolvaardt lost 19 rating points in the latest update. Smriti has a total of 727 rating points, followed by England captain Natalie Sciver-Brunt (719). Wolvaardt is third (719).

ERROR IN JUDGEMENT

Sabalenka apologises to Gauff for 'unprofessional' comments

World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka apologised on Tuesday for statements she made after losing the French Open final to Coco Gauff earlier in June. "I don't think she won the match because she played incredibly well," Sabalenka had said. The Belarusian said the comments were "simply completely unprofessional of me".

Captaincy means a lot, but you've to look at the bigger picture: Bumrah

He says that he had informed the BCCI about his decision to opt out of the leadership role and that there is no controversy; the ace pacer reveals he chose to contribute more as a player; the 31-year-old adds he is expected to play three Tests

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Press Trust of India
LEEDS

Workload management: Bumrah said he did not want to be in a situation where he had to abruptly walk away from Tests. X@BCCI

The peerless Jasprit Bumrah has revealed that he had ruled out Test captaincy during the IPL itself as part of his workload management, and had informed the BCCI of his desire to prioritise his bowling responsibilities over leadership duties.

"There are no fancy stories to it. There is no controversy or a headline statement that I was sacked. Before Rohit (Sharma) and Virat (Kohli) retired, I had spoken to the BCCI during the IPL about my workload going forward in a five-match series," Bumrah told *Sky Sports Cricket*.

"I've spoken to the people who have managed my back, I've spoken to the surgeon as well, who's always spoken to me about how smart you have to be about the workloads.

"And then we came to the conclusion that I have to be a little smarter. I called the BCCI and said I didn't want to be looked at in a leadership role, because I won't be able to play all matches coming to a five-match Test series," added the 31-year-old.

After Rohit's retirement, and with Bumrah ruling himself out, the BCCI appointed Shubman Gill as the skipper of the Test team, with his first assignment being the series against England, beginning in Leeds on Friday.

During the interaction, Bumrah stressed the need for continuity in leadership, particularly in a long series. "The BCCI was looking at me at (a) leadership (role). But then I had to say no as it was not fair for the team as well. It's not fair to the team if in a five-Test series, three matches somebody else is leading and somebody else is leading in the other two.

"I always wanted to put the team first, even if me being there as a player offers a lot more just not as a captain," Bumrah said.

"Captaincy is a position. But you always have leaders in the team. I didn't want to be in a situation where I had to abruptly go away from this format."

Bumrah acknowledged that leading the Indian Test team would have been a huge honour but added that he loves the game more than captaincy.

"Captaincy meant a lot. I had worked very hard for it. But, unfortunately, sometimes you have to look at the bigger picture. I love cricket more than captaincy so I want to contribute more as a cricketer and to the Indian team as a player."

Bumrah is planning to play in at least three Tests in England, including the opener at Headingley.

"Obviously, the number is not decided. First (Test) is definitely on, that is going to happen.

"The rest, we will see how things are, what is the workload and scenario... but yes, three Tests is what I can manage at the moment".

Root expects India to pose stiff challenge despite the absence of Kohli and Rohit

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Prolific: With over 13,000 Test runs, Root has the highest tally among active players. FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

For well over a decade, Joe Root and Virat Kohli were spoken of as the best batters in the world. With Kohli now having retired from Test cricket, Root stated that he will "miss those battles" with Kohli.

"I've never been in competition with Virat. He is someone I've always admired, and thought, 'Wow, what a player'. I'll miss those battles we had on the field, but it provides opportunities for other players to try and put their mark on Test cricket," Root said in a media interaction organised by *Sony Sports Network*.

The Indian Test team, which takes on England in five Tests, will miss the services of another experienced batter in Rohit Sharma, who too has retired from the longest format.

"Cricket is poorer without them being around. They are two Indian legends.

"They've done amazing things for Indian cricket for such a long period of time. It'll be a slightly different look to the series, but we still expect it to be highly competitive," Root said.

Jasprit Bumrah is unlikely to play all five Tests, but when he does have ball in hand, the pacer presents a big threat, Root said.

"Every time he's played, he's had a huge impact. He is clearly going to be a big threat. We have to try and manage as best we can," the England great said.

Root added that the key lies in playing the Indian attack as a whole, instead of obsessing on Bumrah.

"You can't single out individual bowlers. You have a plan for every challenge and different bowler type. There will be times when he (Bumrah) is going to be hard work, and we're going to have to work through that. And when we get opportunities to score, we've got to take it," Root said.

The 34-year-old is not a fan of the proposed move to change Tests to four-day affairs.

"I don't really understand why you'd need to change it to four days. Coming from England where it rains a lot, you're basically asking for more draws, which nobody wants.

"It doesn't really make sense to me. If you look at some of the greatest Tests of all time, they go right down to the wire," Root said.

(Watch India's tour of England from June 20 onwards live on Sony Sports Ten 1 & Sony Sports Ten 5 channels)

Pataudi's name to stay associated with England-India series

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Pataudi name will remain a part of the India-England cricket rivalry with the winning captain of the upcoming five-Test series set to be presented with a medal named after the royal family that has a rich connect with the game in both countries.

The decision to rename the Pataudi Trophy to Tendulkar-Anderson Trophy was taken by the England and Wales Cricket Board.

It has been learned that Tendulkar himself reached out to the ECB and expressed that the Pataudi name should remain a part of India-England cricket. ICC chairman Jay Shah also had a role to play.

"When this happened, Sachin reached out to the ECB and conveyed that the Pataudi name should remain a part of the India-England rivalry. Jay Shah was involved in the discussions. ECB has agreed to the request and decided to present the Pataudi Medal to the winning captain," said a BCCI source.

Formation of WTT India will lead to the country hosting more international events

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Joining hands: ITTF Group CEO Dainton, ITTF governing council member Vita and WTT India brand ambassador Sharath.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In a major boost to the table tennis ecosystem in India, the World Table Tennis (WTT) – the events' arm of the International Table Tennis Federation – has formed WTT India, with an eye on hosting more high-profile world-ranking events in the country.

India has joined a select group of countries like China, Singapore, Japan, Germany and the US to have domestic WTT event companies.

A. Sharath Kamal, who retired earlier this year, has come aboard as the brand ambassador of WTT India, while Vita Dani, the co-promoter of franchise-based league Ultimate Table Tennis and an ITTF governing council member, will join as a member of the board of directors.

"You will start to see more WTT events and more international events. Eventually, in the next few years, you will start to see some of our bigger events coming here, whether that's Champions, we will explore Smash in the future as well.

"Although it's a different road to get that, hopefully even World Championships and big events on that scale," Steve Dainton, Group CEO of ITTF, told *The Hindu*.

"Having people that are working day to day on World Table Tennis will help us achieve that quicker than having just us based out of Singapore trying to make it happen."

India at present hosts two annual WTT events, a Star Contender and a Youth Contender series tournament. The number is likely to double in the next 12-month cycle with the new partnership.

"We only have to grow from here. I am hoping that we as a country are able to host (the) 2036 Games and if that is the case, then this would be an ideal roadmap to lead up to the Olympics in India. I don't think we can ask for a better opportunity than this or a better partnership than this as far as table tennis is concerned," Vita said.

Empty seats as Chelsea wins its opener, Benfica denies Boca

CLUB WORLD CUP

Agence France-Presse
PHILADELPHIA

Dramatic draw: Otamendi rises high to head home Benfica's equaliser. GETTY IMAGES

Chelsea began its Club World Cup campaign with a 2-0 victory against Los Angeles FC in a largely empty stadium on Monday as Brazilian giant Flamengo also got off to a winning start and a Benfica comeback denied Boca Juniors in a stormy encounter.

Pedro Neto and Enzo Fernandez got the goals for Enzo Maresca's side in the Group-D match before nearly 50,000 empty seats at the Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

Chelsea went ahead just after the half-hour mark when Nicolas Jackson released Neto and the Portuguese winger turned inside LA defender Ryan Hollingshead before beating goalkeeper Hugo Lloris with a powerful strike.

Former Chelsea striker Olivier Giroud came on at half time for the Americans and Steve Cherundolo's team improved in the second half.

However, Liam Delap entered the fray for Chelsea and made the killer second goal, crossing for the arriving Fernandez to control and finish.

Flamengo began its campaign by easing to a 2-0 win against Esperance of Tunisia in Philadelphia.

There was close to a full house, and a raucous atmosphere, in Miami as Boca and Benfica played out an entertaining 2-2 draw in Group-C. The majority of the crowd was backing Boca and the Argentines roared into a two-goal lead, Miguel Merentiel and Rodrigo Battaglia both scoring in the first half.

Benfica was given a lifeline in first-half stoppage time when Boca's Carlos Palacios mistimed a challenge on Nicolas Otamendi and after a VAR review – which included a red card for protesting from the already substituted Boca midfield Ander Herrera – a penalty was awarded.

Veteran Angel di Maria converted from the spot to make it 2-1, but Benfica then had Andrea Belotti sent off in the 71st minute after a wild, high-footed kick into the head of Ayrton Costa.

But with six minutes remaining the Portuguese side equalised as Otamendi headed in to make it 2-2.

Fluminense held Borussia Dortmund to a 0-0 draw in their Group-F match in New Jersey on Tuesday, as the Brazilian side was left to rue missed chances.

The results: On Tuesday:
Group F: Fluminense 0 drew with Borussia Dortmund 0.
On Monday: Group C: Boca Juniors 2 (Merentiel 21, Battaglia 27) drew with Benfica 2 (Di Maria 45+3-pen, Otamendi 84).
Group D: Chelsea 2 (Neto 34, Fernandez 79) bt Los Angeles FC 0; Flamengo 2 (De Arrascaeta 17, Luiz Araujo 70) bt Esperance 0.

INBRIEF

NBA Finals: Williams excels as Thunder take a 3-2 lead

Jalen Williams erupted for 40 points as host Oklahoma City Thunder held off the Indiana Pacers to score a 120-109 victory in game five of the NBA Finals at the Paycom Center on Monday. The win leaves the Thunder 3-2 up in the best-of-seven series, meaning they can seal the NBA crown with victory in Indianapolis on Thursday.

The scores: Oklahoma City Thunder 120 (Williams 40, Gilgeous-Alexander 31) bt Indiana Pacers 109 (Siakam 28). *Thunder lead 3-2.*

Indian compound archers set two U-21 World records

Indian compound archers set two under-21 World records in the qualification round of the Asia Cup Leg-2 in Singapore on Tuesday. The women's team of Shanmukhi Naga Sai, Tejal Salve and Tanishka Nilkumar scored 2101 (previous 2076, set by India in 2023). Shanmukhi and Kushal Dalal, who topped the women's and men's individual rankings with 706 and 714 respectively, totalled 1420 (previous 1419, by USA in 2024). The Indian men's team, also including Ganesh Mani Ratnam Thirumuru and Mihir Apar, took the top spot with an aggregate of 2126.

Indian junior women's hockey team loses to the Netherlands

The Indian junior women's hockey team concluded its tour of Europe with a 2-3 shootout loss to host the Netherlands after a goalless draw in regulation time at Utrecht. Lalrinpuii and Priyanka Yadav converted their chances for India while Netherlands edged ahead with successful strikes from Imme de Leeuw, Roos Alkemade, and Lotte Rust.

Shubh rides Foggy Bottom to victory in State Equestrian

Shubh Chowdhari (astride Foggy Bottom) won the 120cm class in the fourth edition of the Karnataka State Equestrian competition at the Embassy International Riding School (EIRS) in Bengaluru.

The results (winners only): Introductory Dressage Test Class: Zoya Shanavaz (Prematheus, EIRS); **Preliminary Dressage Test Class:** Dishant (Kannjo, EIRS); **Pre-Novice Dressage Test Class:** Eshaan (Tina, EIRS). **Show Jumping: 60cm Class:** Hemkilaru (Kalina, EIRS); **80cm Class:** Hemkilaru (Dream Boy, EIRS); **100cm Class:** Eshaan (Azlan, EIRS); **110cm Class:** S. Basavaraju (Snowman, EIRS); **120cm Class:** Shubh Chowdhari (Foggy Bottom, FSS).

Inter Kashi wins first appeal against AIFF at CAS

Inter Kashi on Tuesday won its first appeal at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) against the All India Football Federation (AIFF) after the Varanasi-based side was deducted three points for a contested I-League match earlier in the year. The CAS ruling, though, will not hand Inter Kashi the I-League title yet. There is another Inter Kashi appeal pending at the CAS.

Korean Kisik Lee set to coach Indian recurve archers

Legendary Korean coach Kisik Lee, who has guided archers from different countries to Olympics medals, is all set to become India's recurve head coach in run-up to 2028 Olympics. Lee is expected to take over in August. It is learnt that Lee's salary will be $20,000 per month.

Sophie Devine to retire from ODIs after World Cup

New Zealand women's team captain and prolific all-rounder Sophie Devine will retire from the ODIs after the World Cup in India and Sri Lanka later this year. The 35-year-old has amassed 3990 runs from 152 ODIs at an average of 31.66 with the help of eight centuries. She has also taken 107 wickets in the ODIs.

Shanto and Mushfiqur hundreds deflate Sri Lanka

The Bangladesh skipper and the veteran batter stitch together the highest fourth-wicket stand for the visitor in Tests against the islanders after off-spinner Tharindu shines on debut

BANGLADESH IN SL

Agence France-Presse
GALLE

A record-breaking fourth-wicket partnership between captain Najmul Hossain Shanto and Mushfiqur Rahim put Bangladesh in control at 292 for three on day one of the first Test against Sri Lanka on Tuesday.

After a wobbly start at Galle, the pair stitched together 247 runs – the highest fourth-wicket stand for Bangladesh in Tests against Sri Lanka – steering the tourists to a commanding position at stumps.

Having elected to bat first, Bangladesh was reeling at 45 for three when the duo came together.

What followed was a gritty rescue act – a partnership built on sound temperament, clever shot selection and an unflinching resolve as they dug their team out of early trouble.

Mushfiqur, the most capped Test player in Bangladesh history with 97 appearances, silenced his critics with a timely ton.

The 38-year-old has fond memories of Galle, having struck a monumental double hundred there in 2013, and once again turned tormentor-in-chief.

Shanto, positive from the outset, kept the scoreboard ticking with deft footwork and a keen eye for the loose ball.

He brought up his sixth Test century – and second against Sri Lanka – with a cheeky paddle sweep off Prabath Jayasuriya, marking his first ton since November 2023.

Off-spinner Rathnayake, handed his Test cap on the back of a prolific domestic season, struck twice in quick succession.

Sri Lanka also handed a debut to opening batter Lahiru Udara, another domestic heavyweight.

The scores: Bangladesh: 292/3 in 90 overs (Shanto 136 batting, Mushfiqur 105 batting). **Toss**: Bangladesh.

Rescue act: Mushfiqur, right, and Shanto revived the visitor from a precarious position on the opening day. AFP

Cock-a-hoop: The Dutch players are jubilant after the win. X@ICC

The Netherlands pips Nepal in three Super Overs, a first in T20Is

Press Trust of India
GLASGOW

The Netherlands beat Nepal after an incredible three super overs during a T20 International tri-series match here, the first time in the history of T20 or List-A cricket.

Michael Levitt struck a six in the third Super Over to eventually give the Netherlands victory here on Monday night.

Having posted 152 for seven in 20 overs, the Dutch looked set for victory with Nepal needing 16 from the final over during the run chase.

Nepal could only level the scores (152 for eight) with tail-ender Nandan Yadav hitting two boundaries, including one from the last ball.

Kushal Bhurtel smashed 18 to take Nepal to 19 in the first Super Over but opener Max O'Dowd struck the fifth and sixth balls of the Dutch reply for a six and a four respectively to level the scores.

The Netherlands batted first in the second Super Over and posted 17.

But again, it was not enough and the drama continued as Dipendra Singh Airee hit Kyle Klein's last ball over the ropes to take the match to an unprecedented third one-over shootout.

Dutch off-spinning all-rounder Zach Lion-Cachet then finished Nepal's over early with two wickets in four balls, without conceding a run.

Just a single was required for the Dutch to win the match in the third Super Over but Levitt finished a remarkable contest in style as he thumped the first ball of Sandeep Lamichhane's over for six.

SNAPSHOTS

Alcaraz paired with Raducanu for revamped U.S. Open mixed doubles

NEW YORK: Carlos Alcaraz and Emma Raducanu plan to team up in a star-studded and radically overhauled U.S. Open mixed doubles competition set to include most of the top men's and women's singles players.

Tournament organisers on Tuesday announced 16 pairings for the new-look format, with Jannik Sinner, Novak Djokovic, Aryna Sabalenka and Iga Swiatek all named on the entry list.

The tournament will be made up of 16 teams, with eight teams earning direct entry based on their combined singles ranking playing alongside eight wild-card entrants.

The winning pair will share a prize of $1 million.

Fascinating: Fans would love to see how former U.S. Open champions Alcaraz and Raducanu play in tandem. GETTY IMAGES

Four-day Tests likely for smaller nations

LONDON: The International Cricket Council (ICC) is ready to sanction four-day Tests for smaller nations in the 2027-29 World Test Championship cycle but India, Australia and England can still play the traditional five-day matches, according to a report in *The Guardian*.

The move to reduce matches by one day would be a significant change and can help smaller nations to play more Tests and longer series.

During discussions last week at the WTC final at Lord's, ICC chairman, Jay Shah, is understood to have expressed his support for four-day Tests, with a view to sanctioning them in time for the 2027-29 WTC cycle, the report said.

The ICC first sanctioned four-day Tests for bilateral contests in 2017.

According to the report, "many smaller nations are reluctant to host Tests due to the time they take out of the schedule and the cost, but a move to four-day cricket would enable an entire three-Test series to be played in less than three weeks.

"In four-day Tests the playing hours are extended to mandate a minimum of 98 overs per day rather than 90 overs to mitigate the time lost," it said.

The 2025-27 WTC will, however, will continue under the existing format of five-day matches.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Hockey players star for Konkan FC

International hockey players S.K. Uthappa and V.S. Vinay contributed to Konkan FC's 8-0 win against Reds FC in the BDFA 'C' division football league here on Tuesday.

Mohammed Naeemuddin, S. Govind Raj, and C. Praveen Kumar and F. Noel Robinson, who have all represented the State hockey team, also managed to find the net.

Other results: BDFA 'C' division: Agaram FC bt Bangalore Youngsters FC 9-2.

KSFA 'C' division: Samurai FC bt Blue Star FC 2-0; Universal FC bt TAL FC 8-0; Mysore Vijayanagar FA bt Silicans FC 3-0; BMFC bt United Aces FC 2-0.

Rithvik's ton does it for Social Cricketers

H. Rithvik (156) took Social Cricketers past Mathikere Cricket Club in the KSCA under-19 inter-club tournament.

The scores: Social Cricketers 280/7 in 50 overs (H. Rithvik 156, Aaron Joseph 34) bt Mathikere CC 115 in 31.2 overs (A.M. Abhinav 33, D. Davan Gowda 34, B.U. Ayush Ponnappa 5/32).

Sir Syed Cricketers 287/8 in 50 overs (N. Bhuvan Gowda 76, Vedaraj Yadav 68, A. Eashan 40, Pankaj Gowda 3/51) bt Friends Union Cricketers, KGF 274/9 in 50 overs (Ayush Patil 114, Ashmit Shetty 55).

Zodiac CC 44 in 15.4 overs (Niranjan Gupta 5/14) lost to Herons CC 47/1 in 4.5 overs.

Merchants CC (1) 69 in 31.4 overs (P. Ved 4/19, Moksh Nahar 3/16) lost to Neptune CC 71/1 in 8.2 overs (P. Ved 34).

Cavaliers CC 145 in 35 overs (Ahan Kaushik 30, Bharatesh Gowda 3/24, Nihaal Khan 3/29) bt Malleswaram Gymkhana 107 in 31 overs (Supreet Neje 50, Vaibhav Srinivasan 3/19, Keerthi Krishna Hegde 3/13).

Palar SC, Kolar 234 in 34 overs (D. Chiranth 70, R. Rathin Sanjay 86, Sai Kritin Yedidi 5/28) bt Friends Union CC (1) 140 in 27.2 overs (Aditya Jha 39, S. Leshan 4/44).

The Bangalore Cricketers 123 in 28 overs (S. Aftab Shariff 3/38, S. Yash 3/23) lost to Rajajinagar Cricketers 124/4 in 27 overs (S. Abhiraj 44); Bangalore SC 255 in 46.1 overs (S. Ananth 83, Advaith Karthik 65, Vaasav Venkatesh 31, H.N. Karthik 5/33) bt RVCE Gymkhana 115 in 38.5 overs (H.N. Karthik 40, Vikram 3/20).

Jawans CC 209 in 41.5 overs (Mohammad Ibrahim Rayyan 62, Eesa Hakeem Puthige 35, S. Shivaprasad 4/47) bt Minerva CC 133/9 in 42 overs (S. Shivaprasad 53, R. Himesh 3/11).

DPS HC routs Ideal SA

Delhi Public School Hockey Club overcame Ideal Sports Academy 6-1 in the Travancore Cup hockey tournament on Tuesday.

The results: Delhi PS HC 6 (Mohd Kaif 4, 42, Shamal 27, Shahanul Shafas 30, Jitheesh 34, Yadav 32) bt Ideal SA 1 (Ram 44); Bengaluru Blues HC 'A' 4 (Vipul 2, Muddappa Vikas 8, Prajan 10, K.D. Vijay Uthaiah 34) bt Naveen HC 2 (Naveen 39, Varun 43).

State ranking 6-red snooker

The State ranking 6-red snooker tournament for men and women will commence on July 10 at the Karnataka State Billiards Association. Entry forms are available at KSBA. The last date for entry is June 30.

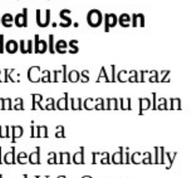
LIVE TELECAST

Football: Club World Cup, DAZN, 6.30 a.m. & 9.30 p.m. (Wednesday); 12.30 & 3.30 a.m. (Thursday)

Sri Lanka vs Bangladesh: 1st Test, day 2, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 10 a.m.

TNPL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.

Make the World Test Championship more inclusive in two groups



BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

In the next 15 months, South Africa, World Test champions, play no series at home. This says something important about their win in the final at Lord's where they beat Australia convincingly in what their low-key leader, Tenda Bavuma, the first Black man to captain the country called, "a win for the "small" teams. These currently being nine of 12 Test nations outside the so-called Big Three of India, England, Australia who have greater resources, larger talent pools and more victories in ICC tournaments.

In England – where the final was played – fans of English cricket (and some players) thought South Africa didn't deserve to be in the final; their cricket board focused on two-Test series like someone forced to meet a requirement while the real thing was being played elsewhere. They had sent a 'B' team to New Zealand and unsurprisingly lost the series while the main players remained at home to play T20 franchise cricket.

While other cricket boards at least made a show of encouraging Test cricket, South Africa's gave up all pretense and simply gave in to the current money machine. They played neither Australia nor England in the third cycle of the World Test Championship which now has three different winners, after New Zealand, another small team, won the inaugural final and Australia the next.

Twists and turns

The final was everything Test cricket is about. Unpredictable, for one, with as many twists and turns as a road to a hilltop. Emotionally draining for supporters, with every possibility alive almost till the end. One moment Australia looked like a team that could not lose, next, like one that could not win.

After the first day, Mitch Starc the batter turned out to be more effective than Mitch Starc the bowler. Commentators told us the pitch was slow, it was fast, the ball was coming on, it wasn't coming on, Australia were too far ahead for it to be competitive, perhaps merely giving breath to their biases.

Aidan Markham played the innings of his life; so did Bavuma, who went from being a symbol (he was called a 'quota captain' when he took over) to an individual with a big heart and a calculating head.

He has won nine of his first ten Tests, leading South Africa to eight wins in a row at the end of it.

Does this mean Test cricket will get a boost in South Africa or that the country's reputation of being chokers will no longer apply? The former depends on their administrators and the latter on the players.

But what of the WTC itself? Is it time to have at least a three-Test final because a series win is the essence of the format? Importantly, is it time to look at some other changes?

We must begin with an understanding – that we cannot allow the perfect to be the enemy of the good. Looking for the perfect system is fine, but waiting till we have one before starting the World Test Championship cycles would have worked against it.

That only nine of the 12 countries playing Test cricket are involved in the WTC cycle means that 'lesser' teams (one step below Bavuma's 'small' teams) will continue to struggle.

Most experts are against the notion of splitting the teams into two groups, fearing that this will lead to endless matches among India, England, Australia with the others getting further marginalised.

New structure

But if the two groups are divided so that every alternate team is in one group - thus, teams ranked in the odd number, one, three five in one and two, four, six in the other, it would mean all twelve get to be involved.

Going by the current rankings, therefore, Australia, England, New Zealand, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan would be in one group while South Africa, India, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Ireland and Zimbabwe would be in the other. No promotion or relegation, no greater and lesser group. It will also help with the scheduling too.

The cycle could be of three years rather than the current two. And the points system simplified. England skipper Ben Stokes has called the competition "utterly confusing". The aim should be to make it less confusing and more inclusive, as any World championship ought to be.